

**PEOPLE**

**Picasso Work Fetches Record \$24.8 Million**

Picasso's "Motherhood," a nine-period mother and child in religious flourishes, was sold in an unidentified buyer at Christie's in New York for \$24.8 million, a fourth-highest price ever paid for work of art. The painting was the most important work in the collection of William and Edith Meyer Goetz. The Goetzes acquired it 40 years ago, and in their living room until the Goetz's death in June 1969. Her husband died in 1969. The work of their 28 works of art totaled \$1 million, a record for the collection of a single owner.

The U.S. Supreme Court turned down without comment an appeal by an employee of television who said he had the original idea for "The Cosby Show." In 1980, Herbert S. Alton, a financial manager, proposed a show about an upper middle-class black couple with five children, called "Father's Day," starring Bill Cosby for the lead. Work executives said they were interested. Four years later, "The Cosby Show" was on the air. U.S. District Court in Manhattan ruled earlier that his idea was sufficiently "novel" to warrant legal protection.

The Washington Opera has a curtain for 30 minutes while Claudio Domingo, in full "Don Quixote" and makeup, was treated to a cold. After being treated by a doctor's office, Domingo went back to perform, then was treated by a doctor's office. Domingo's private jet back to New York was held up by "Aids" at the airport.

Luc Besson and Jean YVES Tuesday shared the \$500,000 prize for the art of the French film "Le Dernier Tango à Paris." Besson, 71, the president of French Cinematheque, is the author of more than 120 films on Africa. Besson, 28, is known for his recent film "Grand Bleu." The prize is for Florence Gould, who is the French-American founder of a prize destined to "reward any or artistic work which is the world's cultural heritage."

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Mr. Takeshita during debate on his tax measure.

## U.S. Gap In Trade Narrows

Markets Slump On Fears About Dollar and Rates

By Stuart Auerbach

WASHINGTON — The U.S. trade deficit fell to \$10.5 billion in September, down nearly \$2 billion from August, the government said Wednesday, but the decrease was not enough to prevent a new assault on the dollar and stock prices.

Analysts said the trade report should ease some inflationary fears, but others predicted that the Federal Reserve Board would push U.S. interest rates up to cool consumer demand.

Imports dropped 2.8 percent in September from a record high in August, but the \$38.7 billion in U.S. purchases of foreign goods still remained substantially above the average for the year. This indicated the stubborn trade deficit would not quickly disappear. U.S. exports rose 2.6 percent, to a record \$28.2 billion, in September.

The improvement in the trade numbers was insufficient to calm jittery financial markets.

Stocks moved sharply lower on expectations that interest rates would rise, in part to support the slumping dollar and contain inflation.

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## Peace Prevails as Pakistanis Vote in General Elections

Women lining up to vote at a polling station in Karachi on Wednesday in the first multiparty national election in Pakistan in 11 years. No violence or major fraud had been reported when the polls closed. The opposition leader, Benazir Bhutto, claimed victory after early returns showed her populist party leading but it was unconfirmed. The results are not expected until Thursday.

## Israel Fights to Counter PLO

Foreign Ministry officials said Israeli diplomats abroad had been instructed to meet with politicians and the news media in the countries where they work, in an effort to persuade them to endorse Israel's rejection of the PLO declaration.

In Jerusalem, the government reproached Turkey on Wednesday for officially recognizing the Palestinian state. The Turkish charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry, where a spokesman said the diplomat was told of Israel's "disappointment, regret and dissatisfaction in the clearest words possible."

The spokesman, Dani Shak, said the government hoped that this would "not mean relations between Israel and Turkey will be hurt." So far, Turkey is the only country that has diplomatic relations with Israel to recognize the Palestinian state.

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"Turkey recognizes the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and respects the decisions taken at the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers," Mr. Guvendiren said after his meeting at the Foreign Ministry.

"The Turkish government considers those decisions as realistic and constructive."

Despite having expressed disappointment over Turkey's action, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday that they were largely convinced that no Western nation would recognize the Palestinian state.

"Everybody knows it's not how many countries recognize the Palestinian state, but which kinds," Mr. Shak said. "The nonaligned and Arab countries don't count. The important ones are the Eastern"

See ISRAEL, Page 6

## Estonia Defies Moscow With A Declaration Of 'Sovereignty'

By David Remnick

TALLINN, U.S.S.R. — In an unprecedented challenge to Kremlin power, the Communist Party leadership of Estonia declared the republic "sovereign" Wednesday at a special session of the republic's legislature.

The Estonian Supreme Soviet declares the supremacy of its laws over the laws of the U.S.S.R., read a statement that won the overwhelming endorsement of the legislature.

The legislators also amended the republic's laws and constitution to specify that Estonia, and not Moscow, will control its land, natural resources, factories, banks, farms, and housing. They also adopted laws reserving the right to exercise veto power over decisions made in Moscow and to maintain sovereignty in every area except military and foreign policy.

The Baltic challenge to Moscow, which reached new heights with the approval of the declaration, is a turning point in the short history of Soviet plans for change. In many ways it is a more serious domestic problem for President Mikhail S. Gorbachev than the dispute earlier this year in Transcaucasia over the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region.

By legally declaring sovereignty from Moscow, Estonia's leadership is testing Mr. Gorbachev's own oratory on "democratization."

Mr. Gorbachev's choice is clear and difficult: to tighten his grip on Estonia and cause inevitable unrest or to loosen his grip and yield power.

The Baltic republics — Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania — have long been the most progressive of the Soviet Union's 15 constituent republics.

In recent weeks, the Communist Party leadership in Estonia and the mass movement known as the Popular Front have been in general agreement, fighting Moscow on a series of proposed changes in the Soviet constitution. They assert that the changes will mean more centralization, and they have demanded greater independence for the Soviet republics.

Although one Popular Front leader, Marju Lauristin, said Wednesday that "no one is seeking a collision course with Moscow," conflict appears inevitable.

In a speech in the region of Orsk south of Moscow, Mr. Gorbachev appeared on Tuesday to give a warning to movements like those in the Baltics when he said "no one should be speaking in the language of ultimatums."

Mr. Vajdas has a close relationship with Mr. Gorbachev. Ever since the rise of the Popular Front this summer, Estonia has been in the Soviet political avant-garde.

See ESTONIA, Page 6

President Gorbachev's autumn diplomacy drive seems aimed at softening Kremlin gains. Page 5.

## A Major Tax Overhaul Passed by Japan House

By Patrick L. Smith

TOKYO — The Japanese House of Representatives approved Wednesday a sweeping overhaul of the national tax system, marking a hard-won personal triumph for Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and a major victory for the governing Liberal Democratic Party.

The parliamentary success of Mr. Takeshita's reforms, which include a new tax on consumption, came amid escalating political attacks on leaders of the ruling party for their involvement in a stock scandal, which has blocked debate on the legislation since it surfaced in June.

Liberal Democrats in the lower house of the Diet, Japan's parliament, voted unanimously for the package of six bills and immediately sent the legislation to the upper house, in which the ruling party enjoys a comfortable majority. No date has been set for debate in the House of Councillors but approval there is considered certain.

With approval of the upper house, Mr. Takeshita's reforms are likely to become law in time to be incorporated into the budget for the 1989 fiscal year, which begins April 1.

See JAPAN, Page 6

## Fed Chief Asks Deficit Action

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, urged Congress and the White House to cut the huge U.S. budget deficit.

"Such large and persistent deficits are slowly but inexorably damaging the economy," Mr. Greenspan told the National Economic Commission.

President-elect George Bush has suggested reducing the deficit by freezing spending and by encouraging economic growth, which would increase revenues. (Page 13.)

## 'Yanqui, Si!': Dollars Lure Nicaraguans

By Julia Preston

MANAGUA — Mercedes Cajina is the envy of her neighbors, who noticed her come home the other day with new shoes.

Mrs. Cajina rose to the cream of the working-class Maximino Jerez neighborhood five months ago when her husband, Romeo, left for Florida and started sending back \$200 a month. Those in the community who have no dollars are agonizing over how to pay for their children's meals.

During more than nine years in power, the Sandinista government has seen the United States as its most dangerous enemy and pledged to free Nicaragua from the bonds of "Yankee imperialism." But a devastating economic crisis this year has made Nicaraguans seek more U.S. ties to ensure a minimal living.

Across Managua neighborhoods, countless families either depend on funds from relatives in the States, or are sending their working-age children there. A growing number are pulling up stakes and moving statewide for good.

On the Cajina family's block of cramped cement row houses, six are for sale by owners who will only accept payment in dollars because they are moving to the United States.

"Everyone's just trying to figure out how to get out of here," said Daisy Montiel, a young housewife. Most families along the street who are staying have some help from relatives in the United States, residents said.

Economy Minister Luis Carrion said a recurring estimate of the amount Nicaraguans send home in a year is \$60 million. That is about two-thirds of what Nicaragua earns from coffee, its major export.

Some families send remittances through legal exchange houses, which take a commission. Many dollars arrive hidden in travelers' bags. Some dollars are wired to Guatemala, where Nicaraguans can travel without visas to pick up

See NICARAGUA, Page 6



## Greetings for the Guest at Reagan's Last State Dinner

President Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy, right, greeting Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain at the White House on Wednesday. Mrs. Thatcher was to be the guest of honor during the evening at Mr. Reagan's last White House state dinner. She praised his administration as "one of the greatest in American history." Mrs. Thatcher said that her visit was also aimed at looking ahead to the incoming administration of President-elect George Bush.

## For Marcoses, 'Imeldific' Life in Exile

By Kendall J. Wills

HONOLULU — Despite Imelda Marcos's complaint that living in Hawaii for the last two years has resembled a prison sentence, friends and other people say that she and her husband, Ferdinand, still enjoy the high life they grew accustomed to in Manila.

They host weekly Sunday afternoon gatherings and lavishly catered dinners at their multimillion-dollar Makiki Heights estate. There are spacious gardens and a swimming pool on the property, which overlooks downtown Honolulu and the Pacific Ocean.

They hold dinner parties at some of the most expensive restaurants in town, and Mrs. Marcos makes occasional shopping trips to Honolulu's designer dress shops.

Even the indictments of Mrs. Marcos and her husband, the former president of the Philippines, on federal charges of fraud and racketeering apparently have not tempered their flair. Mrs. Marcos proudly told reporters in New York recently that a new word, "Imeldific," should be coined to describe her special sort of ostentatiousness.

Yet, according to one of the couple's lawyers, they have "been forced to live on borrowed funds" since arriving in the United States in February 1986 because the Philippine government has effectively frozen the couple's assets.

The couple has said that the house is rented for their use and that friends are making the payments. The rent is said to be several thousand dollars a month.

Although the Marcoses do not seek publicity, party at the advice of their lawyers, they often get it. Both have been accused in a complex case involving charges of embezzling more than \$100 million from the Philippine government and of using the money to buy three buildings in New York.

Mrs. Marcos flew to New York in late October to be arraigned on the charges. Mr. Marcos remained in Hawaii because of poor health, and his arraignment was postponed.

The couple has only occasionally sought out the news media since being evacuated from the Philippines along with about 90 supporters. But on the island of Oahu, where the social atmosphere in many ways resembles a small town, the comings and goings of such a prominent couple are guaranteed to attract attention.

"She's quite something," said an employee of Sergio's, an Italian restaurant that is

See IMELDIFIC, Page 6

## Bush Expected to Name Sununu as Chief of Staff

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — President-elect George Bush will reach outside the Washington establishment to name Governor John H. Sununu of New Hampshire to the influential post of White House chief of staff, aides said.

The vice president remained publicly uncommitted Wednesday about filling the job of chief of staff, saying "no final decisions" had been made. But sources close to Mr. Bush said that he was expected to make the announcement on Mr. Sununu soon.

After the president, the chief of staff is the next most powerful person in the White House, with influence over access to the Oval Office, the agenda, scheduling and other matters.

In Concord, New Hampshire, Mr. Sununu refused at a news conference on Wednesday to confirm the reports.

Mr. Bush spent the day in separate meetings with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Andrei D. Sakharov, the Soviet dissident. He will meet Mrs. Thatcher again for breakfast Thursday.

The apparent selection of Mr. Sununu followed an intense inter-organizational struggle among top Bush advisers.

Some members of Mr. Bush's inner circle had favored Craig L. Fuller, who has served as the chief of staff for the vice president since February 1985, to continue that role.

Others had argued for a power-sharing arrangement involving both Mr. Fuller and Robert Teeter, a political strategist and chief poll taker for Mr. Bush.

Aides involved in the transition between administrations said Mr. Bush decided to appoint Mr. Sununu in the top spot and to offer senior deputy positions to Mr. Fuller and Mr. Teeter, serving under Mr. Sununu.

Mr. Fuller is also being considered for a possible cabinet position.

Mr. Sununu has a close relationship with Mr. Gorbachev. Ever since the rise of the Popular Front this summer, Estonia has been in the Soviet political avant-garde.

See ESTONIA, Page 6

**Kiosk**

**Papandreou Shifts Cabinet**

ATHENS (AP) — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou reshuffled his cabinet on Wednesday amid opposition calls for the resignation of his Socialist government because of a financial scandal.

The shake-up abolished the key posts of deputy prime minister, held by two cabinet ministers and increased the cabinet of Mr. Papandreou's Panhellenic Socialist Movement from 47 to 56 members.

The Soviet shuttle Buran. U.S. space experts say it strongly resembles the American craft. Page 5.

**General News**

Washington presented the Soviets with allied conditions for a human rights conference in Moscow. Page 2.

**Business/Finance**

Fortsmann, Little dropped out of the takeover battle for RJR Nabisco. Page 15.

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Up	1.717
Found	1.8325
Yan	122.225
FF	5.867

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# Soviet Cuts In Military Are Urged By Sakharov

By Michael R. Gordon  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Andrei D. Sakharov, the Soviet physicist and human rights campaigner, has called on the Soviet Union to unilaterally cut the size of its military.

Mr. Sakharov said Tuesday that the Soviet military was larger than necessary to protect the country's security. Reducing the size of the armed forces, he said, would help restore trust between the United States and the Soviet Union.

But Mr. Sakharov complained his appeal with a general endorsement of Moscow's approach to arms control. Repeating a major Soviet theme, he also called on Western nations to abandon longstanding insistence on the right to initiate the use of nuclear weapons against a Soviet conventional attack.

Mr. Sakharov made his appeal after accepting the Albert Einstein Peace Prize, awarded by a board of academic, business and scientific leaders. He said he had given long thought to what steps the Soviet Union could take to improve East-West relations.

"I came to the conclusion that the best thing for us to do would be a unilateral reduction of military forces and that would have to begin with the curtailment of the terms of military service," he said.

The Soviet military numbers about 5.1 million men, according to



Senator Edward M. Kennedy greeting Mr. Sakharov as he arrived for a dinner in his honor at the senator's home near Washington.

the International Institute for Strategic Studies. But about 1.5 million of these are noncombatants involved in construction, civil defense and railroads.

In contrast, the United States military numbers about 2.2 million, according to the institute. France has an active military of about 546,000. There are about half a million Soviet military personnel on active duty in West Germany. The

size of the Chinese military is estimated at 3.2 million. These figures do not include reserves.

The Soviet president, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, said recently that the Soviet authorities were considering whether to shorten the period of compulsory military service.

But Mr. Gorbachev has also suggested that reductions in size of the Soviet military should be accompanied by similar cuts in the West.

# U.S. Gives Soviets Western Terms For a Rights Conference in Moscow

By Don Oberdorfer  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United States has presented the Soviet Union with a newly forged allied position on a Soviet proposal for an international human rights conference in Moscow in 1991, in a move that officials hope may open the way for a new set of East-West arms reduction talks, State Department officials say.

The allied position, which represents significant shifts by the United States and Britain, was presented last week to Soviet officials in Europe and Washington, and in a letter from Secretary of State George P. Shultz to Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze, the officials said Tuesday.

At about the same time, however, France posed a new complication by shifting its stand on proposed East-West talks to reduce conventional military forces in Europe, U.S. officials said.

They said the French demand involved the nature of the link between two East-West negotiations, 35-nation talks under way in Vienna on confidence-building measures, and planned 23-nation talks on conventional arms cuts.

The head of the U.S. delegation to the talks in Vienna, Warren Zimmerman, called the French shift "a very serious problem." He said that it had taken other Western nations by surprise.

The new allied position on a Moscow human rights conference was reached two weeks ago in discussions in Washington, and European capitals, and involved a letter

from President Ronald Reagan to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Previously, U.S. officials had told the Soviets and U.S. allies that Washington might send representatives to a Moscow human rights conference if key conditions were met. The British had declined to go even that far. The new position, officials said, is that the United States and its allies will attend a Moscow conference if specified conditions are met.

One official characterized the change as from "maybe" to "yes, if."

Officials said these were among the conditions, which were set forth in the messages to the Soviets:

- Release from Soviet prisons of the remaining "prisoners of conscience" who are known to the West. No number or list was given, but the United States is referring to 180 to 200 persons it believes are in this category.

- Release of the sole remaining Helsinki monitor jailed by the Soviets.

- Emigration of all Soviet Jews known to the West to have been refused exit visas.

- A commitment to further increases in emigration from the Soviet Union.

- Progress on ending the Soviet jamming of Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and Radio Israel.

- A concrete affirmation that the Soviet Union will put into place laws and institutions that make permanent its recent moves toward improvement of human rights.

In addition, the Soviets were told that access to the proposed Moscow conference must be guaranteed to dissidents, human rights groups and the international press.

The proposed rights conference is one of the main issues in the way of completing the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Vienna, begun in 1986. Successful completion of the Vienna human rights talks, in turn, is a Western requirement for starting new East-West conventional arms talks.

# Grain Shortage Is Brewing in China

United Press International

BEIJING — China, facing a shortfall in its grain harvest this year, is drinking up too much grain as alcohol, the newspaper Jingshi Ribao warned Wednesday.

The economic daily newspaper said that while China allocates 50 million tons of grain annually to feed city residents, an additional

12.5 million tons will be used by brewers and distillers this year to make grain-based liquor.

Because of bad summer weather and other problems, China's grain harvest this year is estimated at 395 million to 400 million tons, below the government's target of 410 million tons and last year's output of 405 million tons.

# WORLD BRIEFS

## U.S. Arms Delegate Reports Progress

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. and Soviet arms delegates have made "a tremendous amount of progress" in the latest four-month round of talks on a long-range nuclear arms reduction treaty, the chief U.S. negotiator said Wednesday.

The 10th round of talks, which adjourned Tuesday in Geneva, left many items still unresolved in discussions of a treaty to cut long-range nuclear forces in half, said the negotiator, Max M. Kampelman. He added, however: "I am impressed with how many agreements we already have."

Soviet officials said Tuesday that they hoped for "new progress" in the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks under the George Bush administration. Mr. Kampelman did not say whether he would continue to lead the talks after President-elect Bush takes office Jan. 20. He said that new approaches could be useful and that there were "no indispensable people in any process."

## Pyeongyang Asks Reunification Talks

SEOUL (UPI)—North Korea on Wednesday proposed talks with South Korea leaders "for the promotion of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country," Prime Minister Yi Kum Mo of North Korea, in a letter to Prime Minister Lee Hyun Chae, suggested that leading officials of both nations meet on the border in mid-December, according to the Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo.

In Seoul, officials said the government would respond after studying the proposal. Mr. Yi's letter arrived on the eve of the sixth round of talks between parliamentarians of both sides in Pannunjom aimed at arranging full-scale reunification talks either in Pyongyang or Seoul.

In the previous five rounds of talks, held in August and October, each side refused to make major changes in its positions and blamed the other for blocking progress.

## Israel Tested Nuclear-Capable Missile

LONDON (AP)—Israel has conducted a second secret test of a tactical ground-to-ground missile with nuclear capability, Jane's Defense Weekly reported Wednesday. The Jericho-2 missile was fired into the Mediterranean in September, around the time Israel launched an experimental satellite into space, the military journal reported unidentified U.S. intelligence sources as saying.

The two launches did not appear related, Jane's said. The missile was first test-fired in May 1987 and splashed down south of the Greek island of Crete, Jane's said.

The 1987 launching carried the missile 530 miles (858 kilometers), and the missile was projected to have a maximum range of 940 miles, putting it in striking range of all the Arab capitals, Jane's said. The launching in September did not yield any additional information regarding the missile's capabilities, it said.

# TRAVEL UPDATE

About 5,000 Brussels police officers demonstrated Wednesday to demand higher pay on the ninth day of a strike that has caused traffic jams in Brussels and divided the six-month-old coalition government. (AP)

Czechoslovakia, trying to ease shortages on the domestic market, has imposed restrictions on goods that can be taken out of the country, including meat, spices, tea and coffee, cocoa, children's clothing and footwear. (Reuters)

Drivers pounding over potholed roads at reckless speeds cause 40,000 traffic deaths a year in the Soviet Union, the newspaper Pravda said Wednesday. "There is a lack of elementary ethics on the road," the paper said, "with drivers behaving rudely and without any respect towards each other." (AP)

Flight delays at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago have worsened since the Federal Aviation Administration limited landings per hour there for safety reasons. American Airlines said 25 percent of its 285 daily O'Hare arrivals were delayed 15 minutes or more in October. In the same month last year, 2 percent of its arrivals had similar delays. (AP)

# Controller System Assailed After Close Call on Air Force One

By Richard Witkin  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Contending that many "deficiencies" allowed President Ronald Reagan's plane to fly illegally close to another airliner last month, a federal safety agency has called for an urgent review of the traffic control system throughout the Northeast.

The National Transportation Safety Board says it "believes that the seriousness and magnitude of the problems justifies the highest level" of action by the Federal Aviation Administration.

The FAA operates the traffic control system and is part of the Transportation Department.

The safety board is an independent agency established by Congress. It can make recommendations to the FAA but it has no power to issue orders.

However, its judgment was one of the most far-reaching criticisms it has directed at the aviation agency in recent years.

The president's plane, Air Force One, was on a flight from Philadelphia to Newark, New Jersey, on Oct. 12 when it passed a Bar Harbor Airlines twin-engine turboprop at 500 feet (152 meters) vertically and 1.58 miles (2.55 kilometers) horizontally.

A controller, spotting the converging flight paths, radioed belated instructions to ensure a safe separation and the president was never in imminent danger.

But the distance between the planes was much smaller than the margins allowed under aviation agency rules — 1,000 feet vertically or five miles horizontally.

The incident occurred at an altitude of 11,000 feet, about 50 miles southwest of New York.

The safety board said its inquiry "identified numerous managerial, operational, and training deficiencies in four different air traffic control facilities that contributed, directly or indirectly, to this incident."

"The safety board believes," it continued, "that these deficiencies represent a serious lack of effective management and quality assurance of these facilities and, if not corrected, could lead to an erosion of safety in the high-traffic Northeast."

"The FAA should conduct an independent evaluation of these facilities and implement appropriate corrective action immediately," the board said.

The safety board listed 14 examples of what it had found wrong, including:

- A directive to hold up traffic into Newark because of the impending arrival of Air Force One was misunderstood because the message was not specific about the route Air Force One was using.

- Two controllers who observed Air Force One and the commuter plane converging did not raise an alarm because they assumed that plans had already been made to resolve the potential conflict.

- An area supervisor involved indirectly in the incident was found to have been "assigned to a position for which he was untrained and uncertified" while another air traffic coordinator was given duties "without receiving formal on-the-job training or a briefing on his responsibilities."

- The harshest criticisms were centered on the "quality assurance" program that the FAA uses to monitor the traffic control system and make certain that its operations are at peak efficiency.

The board said inquiries into past accidents and incidents had repeatedly criticized the quality assurance program at the "national, regional and facility levels."

"The safety board continues to be concerned," it said, "that there is no standard surveillance of the quality of controller performance and, as such, the program is inadequate."

"Many times," the board said, "managerial, operational, and training problems, which were identified during previous quality assurance evaluations, remain uncorrected a year or two later and are found to be contributing factors to operational errors."

The safety board criticized the FAA's insistence on assigning the quality assurance job to personnel within the agency's air traffic control organization, instead of to independent employees reporting to the head of the agency.

The board noted that, as recently as August, such a separation of responsibility had been strongly recommended after its inquiry into controller error at the terminal radar station in Chicago.

The FAA replied that it was setting up a special evaluation office as an "independent body to insure an unbiased evaluation and quality assurance function." But it was still under the jurisdiction of the head of the air traffic division.

The safety board said Tuesday it was "disappointed" by the response. In effect, the board concluded, the quality assurance group was "evaluating itself."

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Telephone: 240 2528 - 240 2529.**

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BRIEFS

Reports Progress... Soviet arms delegates have reached the latest four-month round of negotiations...

Adjourned Tuesday in Geneva... discussions of a treaty to cut long-range nuclear weapons...

They hoped for "new progress" under the George Bush administration...

Unification Talks

On Wednesday proposed talks on the promotion of the independence of the Republic of the Congo...

Ear-Capable Missiles

Conducted a second secret test of its nuclear capability... Jericho-2 missile was fired...

Greek Court Delays Ruling

ATHENS — The Greek Supreme Court has postponed a decision on the extradition of a Palestinian wanted by the United States...

UPDATE

Officers demonstrated Wednesday a day of a strike that has caused a six-month-old coalition government...

IONS

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Brady at Treasury: Traditional Style And the Status Quo

By Paul Blustein

WASHINGTON — Nicholas F. Brady, the man President-elect George Bush has named to run the Treasury Department, is as moderate and pragmatic a Republican as the man he replaced in August — James A. Baker 3d. But Mr. Brady has a different style and temperament than that of Mr. Baker, and that may produce a different approach to economic policy.

Mr. Baker favored bold initiatives and showed a penchant for the free-wheeling capitalism of his native Texas. Mr. Brady is more cautious and willing to consider measures to contain the excesses of capitalism in order to preserve the status quo, according to people who know both men well.

Mr. Brady is more traditionally conservative, an administration official said. "That may reflect one fellow being from Texas and the other being from the Eastern establishment." The official added: "As Nick gets used to his job, maybe he'll get more adventurous."

Given the problems Mr. Brady faces, he may find he has little choice but to become more adventurous. The risk of a sudden plunge in the dollar or a rise in interest rates is very real if there is little or no progress next year in reducing the U.S. budget and trade deficits.

The savings and loan industry, meanwhile, is in need of a financial rescue. Mr. Brady can claim some experience in facing urgent policy problems. After the stock market crash of Oct. 19, 1987, President Ronald Reagan named him chairman of a five-member commission to propose preventive measures. Operating under a 60-day deadline, the panel proposed a major overhaul of the regulatory structure dealing with the financial markets.

To critics in the White House and the Baker Treasury, the panel's proposals seemed aimed at protecting the old Wall Street establishment from the upstarts who had devised new methods of speculating and hedging such as options and futures trading. The administration ignored most of the panel's recommendations.

Mr. Brady's distaste for some of Wall Street's practices also was reflected in his opposition to the growing use of "junk bonds" to finance takeovers. The junk bond fad "increasingly endangers our savings institutions and our system of corporate enterprise," he wrote in a 1985 op-ed article in The New York Times.

Whether or not such positions reflected a desire to protect the Wall Street establishment, Mr. Brady is indisputably a product of that establishment. Until his appointment to the Treasury by Mr. Reagan on Aug. 5, Mr. Brady was co-chairman of Dillon, Read & Co., an old-line investment banking firm that traded on its longstanding relationships with clients and stayed relatively small by Wall Street standards.



Nicholas F. Brady

John Sununu

Mr. Brady, 58, was born and bred for such high-powered financial responsibility. His Irish ancestors included the founders of several companies, and he graduated from St. Mark's School in Southboro, Massachusetts, Yale University and Harvard Business School before joining Dillon, Read in 1954.

He was once chairman of the Jockey Club, which oversees racing in New York State, and was also an official of the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia, host of the annual Masters golf tournament.

Yet for all his wealth and breeding, Mr. Brady is regarded by friends as an unpretentious man with a finely honed sense of humor. His estate in Far Hills, New Jersey, is marked by a sign that says "Dogpatch."

Mr. Brady, who married his childhood sweetheart and who has four children, dislikes ostentation and is frequently on the prowl for inexpensive restaurants, his friends say. "We always used to kid him about his 20-year-old sweaters and his 10-year-old Chevy," said C. Austin Fitts, a managing director at Dillon, Read.

His eight-fistedness may have some impact on policy. Mr. Brady reportedly became annoyed recently about a congressional proposal to establish a special commission on the savings and loan crisis because the panel would have required a \$500,000 budget.

Mr. Brady's unassuming personality suggests that he is likely to play less of a powerful role in setting economic policy than Mr. Baker did. Moreover, Mr. Brady's rivals for influence within the Bush administration will presumably include some assertive people, such as Richard G. Darman, Mr. Bush's apparent choice for budget director.

And Mr. Baker himself, as Secretary of State, is likely to maintain considerable authority over economic matters.

But Mr. Brady's friends say he should not be underestimated. For one thing, he is close to the president-elect, whom he met in the 1970s through Mr. Bush's brother Jonathan. For another, Mr. Fitts said, "he is the steadiest, calmest and most clearheaded person in a crisis that I've ever met."

Some Bush aides regard Mr. Sununu as a risky choice. These aides said the key question is whether Mr. Sununu can impose discipline on Mr. Bush, who is expected to be a more activist president than Ronald Reagan and who has depended on aides to keep him focused on his principal objectives.

Bush aides also are uncertain about Mr. Sununu's ability to delegate authority and to blend in with competing forces within the Bush administration.

Mr. Sununu has little Washington experience. That fact, along with his pronounced ego and aggressive nature, has caused some Bush aides to wonder whether he can work well with Congress and others in the administration.

"He's impatient, like most very bright people," said Senator Warren B. Rudman, a New Hampshire Republican, who said he developed a friendship with and deep respect for Mr. Sununu when he campaigned against him in the 1980 New Hampshire Republican Senate primary. Mr. Sununu finished second to Mr. Rudman in that race, then served as chairman of Mr. Rudman's successful general election campaign that year.

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Sununu, Probable Bush Staff Chief, 'Knows How to Push' Bureaucracy

By Joe Pichirallo

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Governor John H. Sununu of New Hampshire, who reportedly has been chosen as chief of staff by President-elect George Bush, has developed a reputation as a demanding and tough executive with a quick mind and a penchant for taking controversial stands and sticking by them.

A 49-year-old college professor with a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Sununu had scant government experience before he was first elected governor in 1982.

But he has left a strong mark on the New Hampshire government. Credited with turning a budget deficit into a surplus, he became known for his blunt and curt management style.

A fiscal conservative, he is credited with instituting policies that have made New Hampshire's economy one of the nation's strongest.

The state unemployment level runs consistently several points below the national average. Mr. Sununu has taken credit for eliminating a \$44 million deficit that he inherited when he took office in 1983.

He served as a national co-chairman of the Bush campaign and helped the vice president win the New Hampshire primary after a severe defeat in the Iowa caucuses.

Chiefs of staff are dependent on the work habits and style of the chief executive they serve. The job involves brokering the demands of those vying for the president's approval and attention, such as cabinet members, and ensuring that policy is conceived in an orderly way and effectively presented to Congress and the public.

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Poll Finds 'Negativism' Was Key to Bush Victory

By Thomas B. Edsall

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The negative attacks on Governor Michael S. Dukakis that were designed to raise doubts about his patriotism and his commitment to combat crime contributed significantly to President-elect George Bush's victory last week, according to a survey by the Times Mirror Co.

"We find the success of the Bush campaign was based on making liberalism, the Pledge of Allegiance and the prison furlough controversies salient, while at the same time making Bush vulnerabilities of less relative importance," officials of the Gallup Organization, which conducted a series of polls for the newspaper chain, concluded in the report made public Tuesday.

The results of seven surveys, which culminated in post-election phone reinterviews of 2,325 voters, found that "for all intents and purposes, George Bush's winning coalition was in place by the second week of September." By then, Mr. Bush had built strong support among key Republican groups and had undermined Mr. Dukakis' strength among independent and Democratic-leaning groups.

One key to Mr. Bush's success, according to the Gallup president, Andrew Kolmt, was his campaign's ability to convert crime from a secondary issue to one of high salience, especially among the most volatile voting blocs.

Other findings: • Mr. Bush did less well than President Reagan did in 1984 among discontented, lower-middle-class voters described by the Times Mirror-Gallup analysis as "disaffected," a group considered key to the ultimate outcome. But he improved his standing among these voters by 21 percentage points between May and Election Day, ultimately winning their support by a 68-to-32 percent edge. (In 1984, Mr. Reagan won them by 81 to 19 percent.)

• The emotionally charged issues of the death penalty, the furlough of murderer-rapist William Horton Jr. and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag were most helpful to Mr. Bush in four voting blocs used in the Times Mirror-Gallup survey: "disaffecteds"; "moralists"; older, blue-collar, socially conservative and pro-military "New Dealers"; and "God and Country Democrats," who are older, poorer, Southern and disproportionately black.

• In terms of the long-range partisan consequences of the election, the survey found that the Republicans made substantial gains in a key group — the young, generally optimistic voters described as "up-beats." Their growing willingness to call themselves Republicans contributed to an overall shift from an 8-point Democratic advantage in voter identification in late spring to just a 2-point edge by Election Day.

• In comparison with the 1984 results, Mr. Dukakis did considerably better than Walter E. Mondale among two Democratic-leaning voting blocs, "seculars," who are nonreligious, "strongly committed to personal freedom and dovish on defense"; and "60s Democrats," a "well-educated, heavily female group" that believes strongly in social justice, tolerance and social spending.

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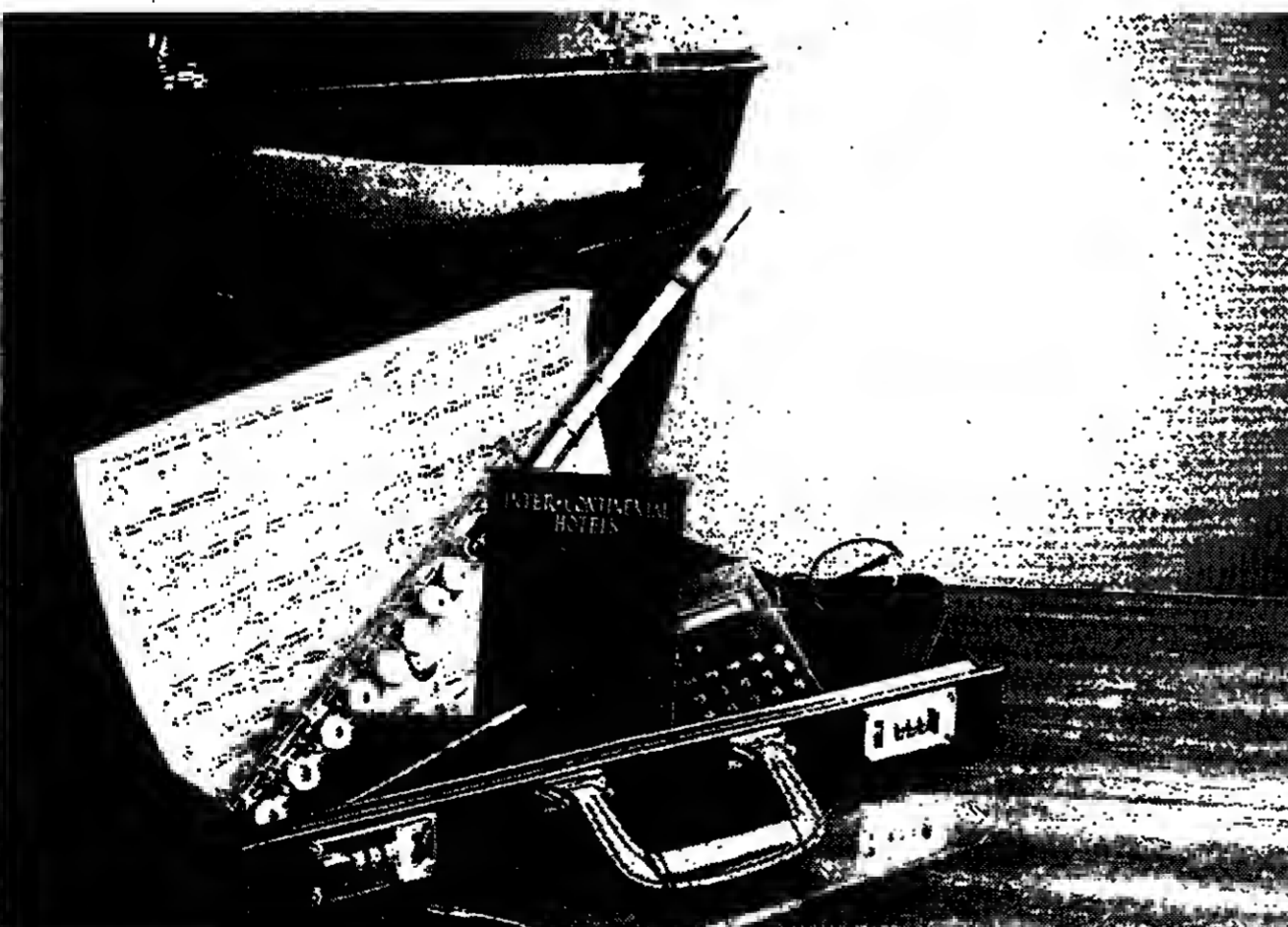
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During October the Fur House of Britain held a series of exclusive fur sales throughout Switzerland. High fashion furs were offered at incredible low prices — so sensational was the demand virtually every item of stock was sold.

Advertisement for Fur House featuring a woman in a fur coat and text: 'TOP QUALITY HIGH FASHION FURS DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY'.

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ASIAN TOPICS

Competition Surging To Succeed Mansfield

Competition is strong for the post of U.S. ambassador to Japan. The New York Times reports...

A State Department official said the contenders were Michael H. Armacost, under secretary of state for political affairs...

U.S. Museum Sends Lintel Back to Thais

Thais have been flocking to the national museum in Bangkok to look at a priceless stone carving that has been flown back to Thailand...

The return of the 11th-century sculpture, which weighs about 430 kilograms (950 pounds) followed a long dispute between Thailand and the Art Institute of Chicago...

The piece, depicting the Hindu god Vishnu, came from Phnom Rung temple in northeastern Thailand. Thai officials said it would be put back above a doorway in the restored temple on Dec. 5.

Around Asia

In another sign of gradual liberalization, Vietnam has held its first beauty contest since the Communist takeover in 1975. The event was held last week in Hanoi. The state radio said contestants paraded in summer dresses...

The World Wide Fund for Nature wants Japan, the world's largest market for tropical hardwood, to switch to nonwood products or to more costly but plentiful wood from North America and the Soviet Union.

Mohandas K. Gandhi has been reinstated as a lawyer by the Inner Temple, one of the four Inns of Court with the right to call lawyers to the English bar.

A Hong Kong judge has abandoned a trial after admitting reading a book during seven days of legal argument. Court officials said Judge Patrick O'Dea, 47, a New Zealander, discharged himself from hearing a robbery case...



IN THE LAND OF OZ — Prime Minister Li Peng of China, at right, tries out a broad-brimmed Aussie hat during a visit to the iron ore mining area near Perth. At left is a member of the aboriginal community. Mr. Li is on a seven-day official visit.

in any case the book in question was a law book.

Deng Xiaoping, China's paramount leader, is "very healthy" at 84, his daughter, Deng Nan, was quoted in two Hong Kong newspapers as saying. But she said she wished he would quit smoking.

President Corason C. Aquino of the Philippines joined outraged compatriots in protest when rumors spread that the Oxford University Press defined Filipina, the

word for a female citizen of the Philippines, as "domestic help." The Manila Standard said that perhaps "Brit" should be defined as "a rowdy soccer fan." A spokeswoman for the Oxford press said, however, that all Oxford dictionaries had been checked and no such definition existed.

Arthur Higbee

Pakistan Seeks Wide Support For Guerrilla Plan in Kabul

By Barbara Crossette

New York Times Service

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Sensing that the Soviet Union is grasping for ways to create a government in Kabul that might be acceptable to Afghanistan's exiled king and its guerrilla armies, Pakistan is seeking international support for a new political proposal by the Pakistan-based guerrillas.

Pakistanis say they believe that they and the Soviet Union have a common interest in settling the Afghan war, and that Islamabad's policy of supporting the guerrillas while seeking to establish an acceptable government in Kabul will not change with the Pakistani elections this week.

Embassies are being briefed on a plan devised in late October by the seven-member guerrilla alliance. The proposal calls for the convening of a 450-member council before the end of January.

The council would represent all factions and districts in Afghanistan. It would name an interim head of government and draft a constitution.

Under the Geneva accords for ending the Afghan war, the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw all its troops from the country by Feb. 15. But Moscow recently suspended the pullout, accusing Pakistan of violating the agreements, and sug-

gested that it might extend its pullout beyond the February deadline. Moscow and Islamabad are concerned about the consequences for Afghanistan and its neighbors if chaos and civil war follow the Soviet withdrawal.

Pakistan would like to send back its 3.3 million Afghan refugees. The new Soviet ambassador to Afghanistan, Yuli M. Vorontsov, is thought to be seeking bold ways to create a political solution.

The dramatic departure from Kabul recently of a leader of one of two squabbling Communist factions was viewed as an indication of Mr. Vorontsov's assertiveness.

Western diplomats said the official, Interior Minister Said Mohammed Gulabzoi, was sent to Moscow as Kabul's new envoy against his will.

Mr. Gulabzoi headed the Khalqi faction of the country's Communist organization, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The Khalqis, who are strong in the military and the Afghan intelligence service, are militants who want a harder line.

They were opposed by President Najibi, a member of the Parchami Communist faction.

In August and September, Mr. Gulabzoi made trips to Moscow that the guerrillas say as attempts to undermine Mr. Najibi.

But his sudden departure is not regarded as a show of support for Mr. Najibi, who has been criticized by the Soviet Union and by his own prime minister, Mohammed Hassan Sharif.

Moscow has been promoting Mr. Sharif, who belongs to neither Communist faction, as a potential leader of a broad-based government.

The guerrillas say his politics are irrelevant because, they say, he is an agent of the Soviet secret police. Pakistan, which has supported the guerrillas since Soviet troops

entered Afghanistan in 1979, takes the view that Moscow will realize that Mr. Sharif is unacceptable not only to the guerrillas but also to the exiled Afghan king, Mohammed Zahir Shah.

The guerrillas' political plan involves the convening of an assembly which would consist of representatives from districts in Afghanistan, Afghan refugees and exiles, members of the Kabul regime, and of the Pakistan-based guerrilla alliance, the Islamic Unity of Mujahidin of Afghanistan.

In a report Tuesday night on the fighting, the official Afghan radio said Kabul's forces had retaken a strategic post on the border that controls access to the Khyber Pass, and there were reports from guerrillas fleeing the fighting that chemical weapons had been used. The Associated Press, quoting Afghans in Peshawar, reported that guerrillas and civilians fleeing the fighting were arriving in Pakistan suffering from burns and vomiting blood.

■ Afghan Rockets Kill 10

Afghan rockets hit a Pakistani border village Wednesday, killing 10 persons and wounding 15. Reuters reported government officials in Peshawar as saying.

The officials said the rockets were fired from Afghanistan and landed in Laday Kaga, in a tribal area bordering the eastern Afghan province of Kunar.

Meanwhile, a guerrilla spokesman in Islamabad said guerrillas had withdrawn from the Salang Highway, the main route from Kabul to the Soviet Union, after cutting it for a week.

"The plan was to block it for a week, not permanently," an official of the Jamiat-i Islami party said.

The Afghan government said it had reopened the road between Kabul and the eastern city of Jalalabad, inflicting heavy casualties on the guerrillas.

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GLOBAL CONDEMNATION OF KHOMEINI REGIME

More than 1,800 Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Party Leaders, Chairmen of Parliamentary Groups, Parliamentarians and Union Leaders from around the world condemned the new wave of mass executions in Iran. Citing the telegram of MR. MASSOUD RAJAVI, Leader of the Iranian Resistance, to the UN Secretary General, they addressed telegrams and letters to Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, urging the dispatch of a delegation to Iranian prisons and torture chambers to investigate the violation of human rights. Citing their letter, the US House of Representatives designated 20th, June 1989, as a "National Day of Remembrance for Political Prisoners in Iran."

U.S.A.

Congressman Mervyn Dymally (D, CA) and Donald Lukens (R, OH), members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, co-sponsored the letter to the UN Secretary General. The letter was endorsed by 188 other members of the House, a partial list of whom appears below: ACKERMAN, Gary, (Democratic Party), Committee on Foreign Affairs; COELHO, Tony, (D), Majority Whip; CROCKETT Jr., George (D), Chmn. Subctn. on Western Hemisphere of For. Affs. Ctte; DORNAN, Robert, (Republican Party), Ctte on For. Affs; DA- VIS, Jack, (R), Am. Serv. Ctte; GED- DENSON, Sam, (D), Ctte on For. Affs; JENKINS, Ed, (D); LAGOMARSINO, Robert, (R), Ctte on For. Affs; MACK- III, Connie, (R) Ctte on For. Affs; MILLER, Clarence, (R); MOAKLEY, Joe, (D), Deputy Democratic Whip; OAKER, Mary Rose, (D) Subctn. on Econ. Stabilization; RAVENEL, Arthur, (R), Am. Serv. Ctte; SCHAEFER, Dan, (R); SCHROEDER, Patricia, (D), Am. Serv. & Jud. Ctte; STUDDTS, George, (D), Ctte on For. Affs; UDALL, Morris, (D), Ctte on For. Affs.

Mr. Secretary General,

The dramatic increase in mass executions of political prisoners and public hangings of innocent people in Iran, as reported by the international press as well as the People's Mojahedin of Iran, has shocked the world.

As the Leader of the Iranian Resistance, MR. MASSOUD RAJAVI, pointed out in his telegram to you, the Khomeini regime has executed or publicly hanged hundreds of innocent people, murdered thousands of political prisoners (most of whom had served their sentences), and arrested more than 10,000 people on political charges in various Iranian cities in the past month. In some cases, the government has published pictures of these public hangings in the state-run newspapers to intimidate the populace.

Whereas all U.N. member-states have a responsibility to fulfill the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Whereas the Khomeini regime has so extensively violated the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights;

Whereas the U.N. General Assembly for the past three years and the U.N. Human Rights Commission for the past seven years have condemned the flagrant violation of human rights by the Khomeini regime;

Whereas the Chief Justice of the Iranian Government officially called on 5th August, 1988, for summary executions of political prisoners, and his call was followed by similar pronouncements by other Iranian officials;

Whereas there have been 70,000 executions by the Khomeini regime since 1981 and the present wave of savagery and murder has put the lives of 140,000 political prisoners in Iran in serious and imminent danger;

We urge you to immediately do everything possible to halt the continuing arrests and executions, to send a mission to Iranian prisons and torture chambers to investigate these reports of flagrant violations of human rights and to publish the findings for the international community. Your prompt response to this crisis will also deny that regime the opportunity to abuse the public focus on the peace talks.

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GREAT BRITAIN

198 British parliamentarians and Trade Union Leaders sent similar telegrams to the UN Secretary General, condemning the recent mass executions in Iran, urging him to send a mission to investigate the violation of human rights in Iran. A partial list of whom appears below:

ALTON, David, MP, (Democrats); AVE- BURY, Lord (Democrats), Chmn., Parl. Human Rights Group; BRAINE, Rt Hon Sir Bernard, MP, (C); CLARKE, Tom, MP, (LAB), Spokesman on Soc. Services; COUCHMAN, James Randall, MP, (C), FPS to the Min. of Health; ENNALS, Lord, Chmn., United Nations Association; FOSTER, Derek, MP, (LAB), Opposition Chief Whip; JOHN- STON, Sir Russel, MP, (Democrats), Dep. Leader of Party & Spokesman on For. Affs; KAUFMAN, Rt Hon Gerald, MP, (LAB), Shadow Cabinet For. Affs. Sec; KNOX, David, MBE, MP, (C); NEWENS, Stan, (LAB), MEP; SKIN- NER, Dennis, MP, (LAB), Chmn., NEC; STEEL, Rt Hon David, MP, (Dem- ocrats), Former Leader, Liberal Party; TODD, Ron, Gen. Sec., TGWU; WAL- TERS, Dennis, MP, (C), WARREN, Kenneth R., MP, (C), Chmn., British Soviet Parl. Group.

FED. REP. OF GERMANY

FISCHER, Lothar, MP, Social Democratic Party (SPD); GRAF, Ugo Mitsud, MP, Min. of Education; BONNICI, Emanuele, MP, Min. for Tertiary Sector Development; CASSAR, Joe, MP, Min. for Housing; FALZON, Michael, MP, Min. for Infrastructure Dev; FENECH, Joe, MP, Min. for Maritime Affairs; GALEA, Louis, MP, Min. for Social Policy; GATT, Austin, Nationalist Party (NP) Sec. Gen.; MUSCAT, Pierre, MP, Min. for Post & Telecom; REFALO, Michael, MP, Min. for Tourism; TABONE, Vincent, MP, Min. for For. Affs.; ZAMMIT, Ninu, MP, Min. for Water, and Energy And 15 other Parliamentarians and Political Leaders.

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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مركز الأصل

# U.S. Experts Say Soviet Shuttle Strongly Recalls U.S. Design

By John Noble Wilford  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — American experts say they believe there are no fundamental differences in design, capability and function between the U.S. space shuttle and the Soviet version that made its first test flight on Tuesday.

Official photographs of the Soviet shuttle, first made public in September, and drawings prepared earlier by U.S. intelligence analysts show a vehicle that is virtually identical in shape and size to the American reusable orbiter.

The similarities extend from the same delta wings and vertical tail structure to the cargo bay with roughly the same payload capacity. Even the paint job, white with black trim, is much the same.

The strong resemblance has raised questions about whether Soviet engineers came up with their design for a shuttle orbiter independently or copied U.S. plans.

In a report last year on Soviet military power, the Defense Department said: "Soviet orbiter development has been heavily dependent on U.S. orbiter propulsion, computer, materials and airframe design technology."

By using U.S. technology and designs, the report said, "the Soviets were able to produce an orbiter years earlier and at far less cost than if they had depended on their own technology."

Soviet space officials, acknowledging the similarities, contend that they are inevitable because both shuttles were designed to serve much the same function, ferrying people and cargoes into low Earth orbit, then returning to a runway landing.

But U.S. specialists in the Soviet space program question this explanation. They point out that American engineers considered several quite distinctly different wing and fuselage shapes, before settling on the one adopted in the early 1970s.

"The fact that the Soviets picked a design identical to ours can't be coincidental," said Nicholas L. Johnson, a specialist on Soviet space technology on the staff of Brown Telemetry Engineering Corp. in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"There's no doubt they took advantage of a vast amount of engineering development that went into ours," he said.

Mr. Johnson declined to comment on whether any stolen designs or equipment might have featured in the Soviet shuttle program.

"I don't think stealing was necessary," he said. "A lot of the information was unclassified and open, if you knew where to look."

One major difference between the American and Soviet shuttles lies in the booster rockets. The Soviet orbiter has no large rocket engines of its own but does have small maneuvering rockets that also help in reaching orbit. Almost all the propulsion is provided by the giant Energia rocket, which can boost at least 100,000 kilograms (220,000 pounds) into low Earth orbit.

The U.S. shuttle has three main permanent hydrogen-fueled engines. They provide the final thrust toward orbit, after two solid-fuel booster rockets are jettisoned.

The Energia rocket, which was designed to launch both shuttles and unmanned cargo craft, has four main engines fueled by liquid hydrogen and oxygen and four strap-on rockets that operate on kerosene and liquid oxygen. Only the strap-on rockets are reusable.

"From a capability standpoint, this doesn't make any real difference," Mr. Johnson said.

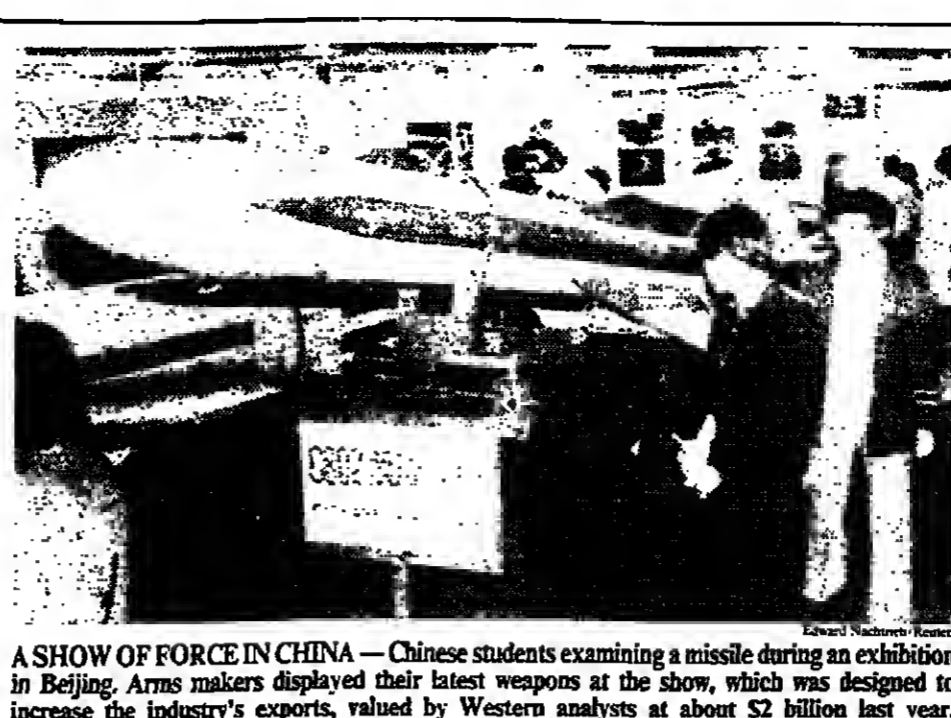
The launching of the Soviet shuttle, named Buran, meaning storm or hizzard, is the second test of an Energia rocket. When the rocket was first tested, in May 1987, its dummy payload failed to reach its planned orbit. The trouble lay in the payload's propulsion, not in the Energia.

It was once thought that the Russians were racing to launch their shuttle before the redesigned American craft returned to service. But Discovery flew in late September in the first American shuttle mission since the Challenger accident in January 1986, which killed all seven astronauts aboard.

Problems with the automated landing system may have been one reason the Soviet shuttle was not tested sooner, some American experts said.

**U.S. Schedules Launching**

U.S. space officials on Wednesday set Dec. 1 as the date for launching the Atlantis shuttle and five military astronauts on a secret Defense Department mission. The Associated Press reported from Cape Canaveral in Florida.



A SHOW OF FORCE IN CHINA — Chinese students examining a missile during an exhibition in Beijing. Arms makers displayed their latest weapons at the show, which was designed to increase the industry's exports, valued by Western analysts at about \$2 billion last year.

# Gorbachev Initiates Diplomacy Thrust

By Philip Taubman  
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev's plan to meet next month with President Ronald Reagan and President-elect George Bush in New York appears to be part of a Kremlin effort to consolidate diplomatic gains made in the last year.

Taking advantage of a hiatus in American diplomacy during the election campaign and the final weeks of the Reagan administration, President Gorbachev has been unusually active on the international front this fall. He has met 13 foreign leaders since mid-September, and plans to see at least five or six more before the end of the year.

Mr. Gorbachev said at a Communist Party meeting Tuesday in the city of Orel in central Russia that he would also visit Cuba.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said Mr. Gorbachev would visit Britain from Dec. 12 to 14. A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, Gennadi I. Gerasimov, said London would be the final stop before Mr. Gorbachev returned to Moscow.

"There is much work to be done and we intend to continue acting in close cooperation with socialist countries and with all peoples to put international relations on a proper footing and strengthen world security," Mr. Gorbachev said in Orel in a speech devoted primarily to domestic issues.

Mr. Gorbachev and five other Politburo members spent two days in Orel, an agricultural center, reviewing economic problems including chronic food shortages.

The Soviet leader's diplomatic offensive this fall has allowed him to get away, however briefly, from pressing domestic problems.

Mr. Gorbachev will visit India later this week, and will welcome President Francois Mitterrand of France here in late November.

The Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen, is also due in Moscow before the end of the year for talks that are expected to prepare the way for a meeting next year between Mr. Gorbachev and Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader.

The meeting in December between Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Reagan will be their fifth since November 1985.

**Luncheon With the Queen**

Queen Elizabeth II is expected to meet Mr. Gorbachev during his visit to Britain, United Press International reported from London. He would become the first Soviet leader to be received by the monarch in more than 20 years.

Buckingham Palace said the schedule for his London visit was not yet final, but that Mr. Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa, would probably be the guests of honor at a palace lunch given by the queen.

# Kenya Defender of the Law Tells of Prison Ordeal

By Blaine Harden  
Washington Post Service

NAIROBI — Gibson Kaman Kuria has a lawyerly way of fashioning ugly events into Latinate words suitable for judges in white powdered wigs.

On the day of his release from nine months' detention without trial in a Kenyan jail, he described his humiliating treatment this way: "I was blindfolded and forced to do exercises while naked. They were commenting adversely as to my private organs throughout my interrogation."

While Mr. Kuria chooses his words carefully, he does not mince them.

The lawyer, 41, whose government did not allow him to pick up the \$30,000 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award at a ceremony Tuesday in Washington, says his homeland is sliding toward political calamity.

"The erosion of constitutional rights in Kenya can only go so far," he said. "I can see a civil war. That is very clear."

It is for opposing the rule of law, while expecting to be tossed into jail for an indefinite stay, that Mr. Kuria has caught the eye of U.S. human rights and legal groups. In addition to the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial award, Mr. Kuria has been honored by the American Bar Association, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights and Human Rights Watch.

All this international attention has been greeted with stony indifference by the government of Kenya. Besides refusing to give back Mr. Kuria's passport, which the police confiscated last year, immigration officials refused late last week to give passports to his wife, Scholastica, or their three children.

She had planned to travel to Washington with her children to accept the award for Mr. Kuria. But immigration officials said that since Mr. Kuria could not travel, and since his wife had not in her passport application that she wanted to travel with her husband, then none of them could travel.

The human rights awards, the passport denial and Mr. Kuria's nine months of solitary confinement all stem from the lawyer's decision in February 1987 to do his job.

At that time, Kenya was caught up in a round of sedition trials. Amnesty International said in a report that more than 75 political opponents of the government were tortured into making false confessions. Many of them, the report said, "appear to have done no more than criticize the way the country is run."

Mr. Kuria was hired by three detainees who said they had been tortured, but who refused to confess to any crime. They asked him to prepare lawsuits detailing torture methods allegedly used by the police. The suits cited provisions of the Kenyan Constitution that prohibit torture, and demanded government compensation.

One client, Mwangi Karuki, said in his affidavit that he was confined

to a dark room partially filled with water and was denied food and drinking water for periods ranging from four to seven days. During his confinement, Mr. Karuki stated, he had no choice but to drink "the water in his cell which was mixed with his urine and excreta."

During his interrogation, Mr. Karuki said, he "was savagely beaten all over his body many times by more than 11 police interrogators." According to the affidavits, beatings were administered using whips, pieces of wood, rulers and rubber straps.

Mr. Kuria went to the office of the Kenya attorney general in Nairobi on Feb. 25, 1987, to file the suits. The next day, five plainclothes policemen from the special branch, a division of the national police that deals with internal security, picked him up. His office and home were searched, and he was driven away to an undisclosed location.

The government said later that Mr. Kuria was being held under the

Preservation of Public Security Act, which allows the indefinite detention without trial of Kenyans considered to be security risks.

Before he went to the attorney general's office, Mr. Kuria told a journalist that he knew the Kenya government would not tolerate his filing such explosive accusations.

He spoke with the journalist of the rule of law. "I have decided I am not going to compromise on the principle even if it means being detained," he said. "I have been warned I shouldn't talk to the press or anybody about these cases."

He added, "I have determined that people's rights must be enforced, so I am going to press the government."

In recent years, the government of President Daniel arap Moi has been busy overhauling the constitution — changing Mr. Kuria's beloved rules.

The changes include the conversion of Kenya from a multiparty democracy to a country where there can be only one legal political party: the one headed by Mr. Moi.

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# Is Peace Closer in the Middle East? PLO Says Yes

By Youssef M. Ibrahim  
*New York Times Service*

ALGIERS — Although they were met with derision in Israel and a lack of enthusiasm in Washington, the political steps adopted by the Palestine National Council are regarded by the Palestinian leadership as a significant move away from the "rejectionist" views that have dominated the movement in the past.

The Gulf that separates perceptions among Palestinians and officials in the United States and Israel was apparent Tuesday. What was seen in those countries as an elaborate effort at avoiding a firm deci-

sion to seek peace with Israel was described by Yasser Arafat and other Palestinian leaders in Algiers as a major move toward a Middle East settlement.

What is indisputable is that during the four days of talks, Mr. Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, seemed to overcome longstanding opposition inside the PLO to UN Security Council Resolution 242, which implicitly affirms the right of Israel to "secure and recognized" borders.

The document adopted by the

national council said that Resolution 242 of 1967, and Resolution 338 of 1973 which calls for negotiations, should be the basis of negotiations on any peaceful settlement.

In addition, he proclaimed that peace talks with Israel would be based on a 1947 UN resolution that partitioned Palestine between Arabs and Jews — a resolution that was declared "null and void" by the national council in 1968.

And Mr. Arafat persuaded the council to state explicitly that it "rejects terrorism in all its forms."

Western diplomats point out that the document fails to state explicitly that the Palestinians rec-

ognize the existence of Israel, which Washington has insisted on before dealing with the PLO. And the declaration by Mr. Arafat of an independent Palestinian state, presumably to be situated in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, was hardly likely to encourage Israel to respond positively.

The section saying that peace talks should be based on the 1947 partition resolution failed to take account of the war of 1948, in which the Arab states failed to crush the new state of Israel.

As a result of that war, Israel's territory was significantly larger than first allocated by the United

Nations. Most significant, the war led to establishing Israel's capital in Jerusalem, first just the western part, and after 1967, all of it.

And the section in which the Palestinian leaders rejected terrorism nevertheless maintained Mr. Arafat's distinction that acts of violence committed in lands controlled by Israel were permissible.

If the Algiers meeting does not become a turning point toward negotiations with Israel, it has allowed Mr. Arafat, who seemed close to oblivion in 1982, to achieve new prominence in the movement.

By the time he arrived in Algiers for the meeting of the Palestine National Council — which serves the PLO as a parliament in exile — Mr. Arafat knew he had settled issues that had long been difficult for Palestinians.



An Israeli soldier guarding three Palestinians seized in Jerusalem Wednesday for throwing a bottle. (The Associated Press)

## Bonn Softens Its Stance on Updating of Missiles

By Robert J. McCartney  
*Washington Post Service*

WASHINGTON — Apparently signaling West Germany's readiness to support modernization of some short-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has said that NATO would be ready to adopt an updated, overall defense strategy by next spring or early summer.

Mr. Kohl's announcement, made at a news conference after talks with President Ronald Reagan and President-elect George Bush, set the stage for one of the first major

NATO decisions to confront the new U.S. administration.

Mr. Kohl made the announcement on Tuesday during a one-day visit to Washington.

A senior West German official said that Bonn would be willing to support deploying an updated version of the Lance missile, which has a range of 70 miles (113 kilometers), and a new air-to-surface missile, with a range of 200 to 300 miles, if NATO agreed to sharply reduce or completely scrap arsenals of even shorter-range nuclear artillery.

That represents a softening of

the West German position, and a significant shift toward the U.S. and British stances.

Bonn had previously sought to delay at least until 1991 a NATO decision on deploying new nuclear weapons with ranges shorter than 300 miles. Many of most of such weapons would be placed in West Germany, where there is strong public opposition to deploying nuclear arms at a time when relations with the Soviet Union have been improving.

Such a NATO agreement, if adopted, would be likely to draw sharp criticism from the Soviet

Union. Moscow has strongly opposed NATO proposals to modernize short-range nuclear weapons.

Under West German pressure, NATO foreign ministers agreed in June 1987 to delay making any commitments on modernizing short-range nuclear forces until NATO developed a "comprehensive concept" for defense and arms control policy.

In practice, the West Germans have used the process of developing the comprehensive concept as a way to delay making a commitment on modernization of short-range nuclear arms. These delaying tactics have irritated the United States and Britain, which have been eager for a decision as soon as possible.

Mr. Kohl said he expected that the comprehensive concept would be ready to be adopted by NATO heads of state and government at a summit meeting marking the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's 40th anniversary. The meeting is expected to be held in London in the late spring or early summer.

West German officials have said that they hoped to postpone a decision on modernization until after West German parliamentary elections at the end of 1990. They have maintained that there was no hurry to make a decision, because existing short-range nuclear weapons such as the Lance will not become obsolete until the mid-1990s.

But the senior West German official, who asked not to be identified, said that the Bonn government now wanted to put any controversy over modernization behind it well before the parliamentary elections. He emphasized that any modernization decision had to be taken by the alliance as a whole, so as not to isolate West Germany.

## JAPAN: Lower House Passes Tax Overhaul Measure

(Continued from page 1)

two prime ministers, including Yasuhiro Nakasone, Mr. Takeshita's predecessor, have suffered crippling political defeats because of their efforts.

It is unclear what political impact the introduction of Mr. Takeshita's tax changes will have on the ruling party. Many analysts believe that in the near term, at least, the Liberal Democrats are likely to lose a number of seats in legislative elections because of the plan.

Nonetheless, the analysts described Wednesday's vote as the high point in Mr. Takeshita's 30-year political career.

"This is a milestone for the prime minister and for Japan," a Liberal Democrat aide said Wednesday evening. "But I must admit it wasn't always clear he would succeed."

Opposition legislators had refused to discuss the tax package over the past several months unless

the ruling party consented to a full investigation of private stock purchases by politicians, political aides and business executives in a fast-rising real estate company, Recruit Cosmos Co., prior to its listing on the over-the-counter market two years ago.

An apparently incomplete list of those involved in the transactions, released late Tuesday, named almost 160 political and business figures, twice the number previously believed to be implicated. Owners of the stock made substantial tax-free profits by selling the stock once it was listed.

Liberal Democratic members of a Diet tax committee prompted a near-riot in the legislature last week when they approved the reform package in the absence of opposition members. Since then the ruling party has sought compromises with the moderate opposition in return for its participation in a house vote on the bills.

Tuesday night, the ruling party

broke the deadlock by agreeing to establish a 30-member committee to investigate the Recruit Cosmos affair. With that agreement, the Buddhist-backed Komeito, or Clean Government Party, and the Democratic Socialists took part in Wednesday's vote.

Just what impact the committee will have on the Recruit Cosmos scandal is uncertain. But political analysts said that the Liberal Democrats are most vulnerable, not to a Diet investigation, but to one currently being conducted by the Tokyo public prosecutor's office.

Other concessions were made with regard to the tax bills. The sales tax, the most politically sensitive portion of the package, is to be only partly applied for the first six months after its introduction next April.

Some economists have questioned the stimulative power of the tax package, since reductions in direct taxation are largely offset by the new sales tax.

## ISRAEL: A Campaign to Counter PLO Recognition

(Continued from page 1)

block, which is wavering, and the West.

Both Israel and the PLO have been extending feelers to Western governments for several weeks, an official said. He said none of the Western nations were likely "candidates for recognition" of the Palestinian state, at least not "at the moment."

Nevertheless, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Israel would engage in a "diplomatic offensive" against the PLO. Mr. Shamir said Mr. Shamir "meant our representatives abroad are meeting with government and media representatives to explain and persuade them of our position."

At the same time, in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinians dodging military patrols violated the total curfew imposed on Gaza since Friday to celebrate the declaration of independence.

In Gaza City, army jeeps cruised the streets in groups of 10 and 15 while soldiers, using megaphones, warned Palestinians to stay indoors or risk being shot. Two Palestinians have been shot and killed by troops since the army sealed the Gaza Strip last week.

At least 278 Arabs have died in the 11-month uprising.

But despite the warnings, Palestinians in Gaza took to the streets

as soon as the patrols disappeared. They banged on drums, clapped, sang and set off fireworks in celebration. When the army jeeps returned, the revelers fled.

Gaza leaders were pleased by the declaration of independence. Zuhair Rayes, a journalist and co-author of the PLO covenant, said "every Palestinian supports the independent state as the national right of the Palestinian people, and this declaration will get us our rights back."

Asad Saftawi, an educator and the leader of the PLO Fatah wing in Gaza, called the declaration "the fulfillment of the demands of the people's uprising." He also predicted that it would be the "first step in a federation with other Arab countries like Jordan and Egypt."

A leader of the Muslim fundamentalist Islamic Resistance Movement, which rejects any form of compromise with Israel, cautiously endorsed the PLO decision. Declining to give his name, he said "we are pleased, but I am conservative when it comes to having the declaration connected to certain international resolutions."

to justify direct dialogue between Washington and the PLO, Reuters reported from Washington.

The State Department spokesman, Charles E. Redman, said Wednesday that the PLO must recognize Israel and reject terrorism more explicitly before Washington could support talks with the PLO and back PLO participation in Middle East peace negotiations.

"The reference to UN resolutions 242 and 338 is an advance over previous efforts by the PNC," Mr. Redman said. "Nevertheless, it is ambiguous, both in its placement in the text and its meaning. Possibly implied or indirect recognition of Israel is not sufficient. Recognition must be clear and unambiguous," Mr. Redman said. Asked to elaborate further on the ambiguities, Mr. Redman declined.

But he added that "there are signs that there are Palestinians who are trying to move the PLO in a constructive way — that's encouraging and it should continue."

"But measured against the requirements of the negotiating process, more movement on key issues will be required," he said. "Measured against the positions the PLO must adopt in order for the United States to engage in dialogue, the results of the PNC sessions fell short of meeting those requirements."

## NICARAGUA: Emigrants Say 'Si' to Yanqui Dollar

(Continued from page 1)

the funds and shop for the many basic goods not available here.

Mr. Carrion also acknowledged in an interview that Nicaragua is undergoing "strong emigration" to the United States because of economic hardship. Weary Nicaraguans wait in lines for exit visas. In September, when the opposition daily La Prensa printed rumors that travel of professionals would be restricted, police were called in to avert a riot in the lines.

Last January, there were 10 charter companies in Managua organizing one-way bus trips to Guatemala, the jump-off point for Nicaraguans without papers who cross Mexico and enter the United States illegally. Today, 65 companies send packed buses every day.

Earlier this year, bands on a Nicaraguan highway held up one charter bus carrying many such passengers and stole everything they had, including their clothes. The busload of naked passengers went to the offices of La Prensa to tell their story. Many lost to the thieves the savings they had collected from selling off all they owned

in Nicaragua to begin their life in the United States.

"It's costly for our country," Mr. Carrion said. "We lose skilled human capital." But he foresaw no restrictions. At least 150,000 Nicaraguans of a population of 3 million now live in the United States.

After the Sandinista-led 1979 revolution against Anastasio Somoza, the first group to go stateside was an elite that rejected the Sandinistas' Marxist bent. Later, professionals fled to preserve their earnings, or to protect their draft-age sons from conscription. About 9,000 doctors, lawyers and others, a third of the total, have left in nine years, according to the Sandinista professionals' association. The real earning power of the average professional in 1979 was the equivalent of \$600 a month. It is \$40 today.

But the emigrants this year come from the working poor. In February, the government enacted broad monetary change to stabilize the economy, which was in chaos after years of low-level war with the U.S.-backed contras, a U.S. trade embargo and Sandinista mismanagement.

In a few weeks, the austerity program slashed the buying power of a wage-earning Nicaraguan by 84 percent. Now a government employee's monthly salary is estimated to provide only enough for a family of four to eat for one week.

The poor "are once again for" the type of economic misery they knew under the Somoza dictatorship," a pro-government research organization, the Central American Historical Institute, wrote in its monthly report.

## ESTONIA: 'Sovereignty' Vote

(Continued from page 1)

gards, constantly testing the limits of Mr. Gorbachev's desire to revise the national economic and political system. Political activity rose sharply with the publication last month of a series of draft changes in the Soviet constitution.

Estonians say they fear that a proposed new Congress of People's Deputies will be able to exercise greater control over the republic. They also object to election laws limiting the right of members of republican organizations, such as the Popular Front, to run in national elections.

Members of both the Popular Front and the Estonian party leadership say the changes will block Estonia's attempt to control its own economic and cultural destiny.

Popular Front spokesmen said they had collected 861,000 signatures of Estonians demanding that the changes be redrafted. Mr. Chelobkov was reported to have called the petition campaign "illegal" and "coercive."

The declaration demanded that any future changes in the Soviet constitution be approved by the 15 republics before consideration in Moscow.

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## IMELDIFIC: A High-Style Exile

(Continued from page 1)

among the most expensive in town. The employee said Mrs. Marcos often dines there.

"She'll make reservations for four," he said. "Then she arrives with an entourage of 9 or 12 and more keep coming all evening to join the group."

Mrs. Marcos has also been seen shopping for dresses in the most expensive sections of upscale stores, such as Liberty House and Carol & Mary, where dresses can cost as much as \$900 apiece.

"She always gets very special treatment," said a Liberty House employee.

At their dinner parties at home, Mrs. Marcos often sings to her guests, many of whom have flown in from Los Angeles, the Philippines or Hawaii's outer islands, according to people who have attended the affairs.

They said Mrs. Marcos, 59, will often sing some of her favorite songs, like "Sentimental Journey" and "Don't Fence Me In," to the accompaniment of a professional pianist.

One person said Mr. Marcos would occasionally join in but that he usually got tired before the end of the song.

"The Marcoses' last public appearance before they were indicted

was on Mr. Marcos's 71st birthday in September. The couple's supporters, who still loyally refer to the Marcoses as "the president" and "the first lady," invited the public to a six-hour party at the Blaisdell Center in downtown Honolulu.

Organizers expected about 4,000 people to attend the affair, where some of Hawaii's top entertainers appeared and expensive donor prizes, such as round-trip air fare to the Philippines and Las Vegas, were distributed. Only about 2,000 people attended. The Marcoses looked somber even as they watched the entertainers perform in their honor.

One person who is paid to keep track of the Marcoses, Tomas Gomez 3d, the Philippines consul general in Hawaii, said he does not have a large enough staff or sufficient resources to constantly monitor them. He relies instead on reports from people who have attended their affairs.

"My main concern is the state of Ferdinand's health and with the possibility of them trying to return to the Philippines," Mr. Gomez said. "Every so often there is a rumor that he's going to try to return."

"We never take them for granted," he added. "We never underestimate them."

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# French Mail Strike Can Generate Havoc or a Boon

By Barry James  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — It was a big occasion for MG Enterprises, a small software company near Paris that was launching an innovative system to put microcomputers in the hands of fashion designers.

The company rented space in the fashion museum at Covent Garden in London to launch the product — a project that represented more than 10 man-years of work — but was disappointed when none of the French specialist journalists it had invited showed up.

It turned out that none of the 20 journalists had received invitations that had been mailed out weeks before. MG Enterprises was one of the countless business, small and large, that have been hit by a wave of strikes and disruptions in the French postal system for more than a month.

"What happened to us was indicative of what happens when a small company finds a lot of effort wasted by something completely outside its control," said Fawzan Mudarras, the marketing director.

Although there are no official estimates of how much the strikes have cost in terms of lost business, the Paris Chamber of Commerce says the disruption and uncertainty have created major difficulties for small businesses with tight cash flows. Large institutions have had to dramatically increase their communications budgets.

"We are running up huge telefax and courier bills," a spokesman for the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris said. "It's the same in any organization where moving paper around is absolutely essential to its functioning."

In the Lille-Roubaix-Tourcoing triangle in northern France, the strikes have had a particularly damaging effect on the economy, according to the local chamber of commerce and industry. The three communities on the border with Belgium are the home of some of Europe's largest mail order companies, which have grown alongside the regional textile industry and the development of high-speed road and rail communications.

Dominique Louvet, a spokesman for the chamber of commerce, said it was too early to calculate losses. He added that several of the mail order houses that rely on catalogue sales for the bulk of their business have had to lay off workers.

After seeing their business evaporate during nationwide mail strikes in 1974 and again in 1983, the big mail order houses in the Lille area — such as La Redoute, 3 Suisses, Blanche Porte, Demart and Quelle — took a variety of steps to make themselves less dependent on the postal system, for example by establishing their own delivery networks and opening stores in major cities. They are also able to take many of their orders by Minitel, the French telex system, or by phone.

But catalogue shoppers in rural areas, an important source of business for the mail order companies, still tend to rely predomi-

nantly on the postal system. At one stage, more than three million letters and packages were piled up inside Lille's strikebound postal sorting center.

The disruption in the postal service forms part of a wave of strikes and work slowdowns by public sector employees hoping to squeeze pay concessions out of the Socialist government elected earlier this year. For its part, the government appears reluctant to grant concessions to one group that might then be claimed by all.

When they have not been on strike themselves, letter carriers in the Paris area have been going on their appointed courses as usual, but with half-empty sacks. According to the government, more than 100 million pieces of mail are piled up in sorting offices, which have been paralyzed by a strike of the drivers responsible for trucking the mail sacks from one depot to another.

Although militants belonging to the Communist-led General Confederation of Labor are still holding out in some sorting centers, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications said the situation was slowly returning to normal.

The mail in Paris is still arriving in a dribble, however. Parisians joke bitterly that the unions appear to have devised a fiendish system to deliver bills but not checks.

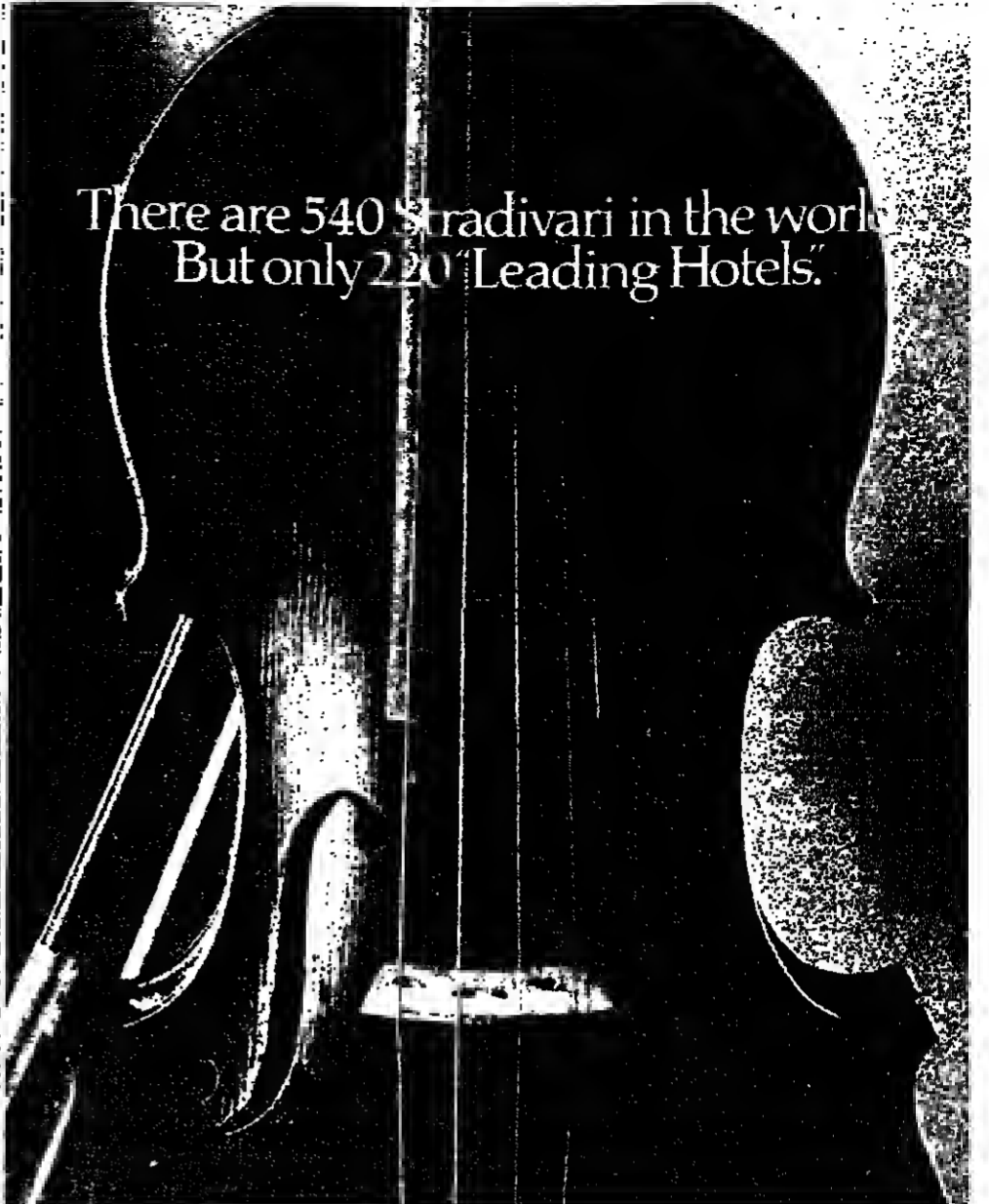
The ministry said it would take several weeks to overcome the results of the disruption. Postal workers will be dealing not only with the backlog but also with the seasonal rush of Christmas letters and parcels.

The unreliability of the postal system has boosted the fortunes of courier services, private mailing companies and merchants selling facsimile machines. Jean-Pierre Potel, general manager of TNT Mailfast, the biggest private remailing company, said it was handling between four and five tons of mail a day, up 30 percent in less than a month.

Mr. Potel said the disruption had helped make TNT Mailfast widely known and accepted, even though it has operated in France only since July of last year.

The private mailing companies offer a cheaper although not necessarily faster service, known as remailing, by negotiating quantity discounts with cooperative postal authorities, including those in the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark. The mail is shipped in bulk out of the country and posted elsewhere. The main drawback is that mail originating in France cannot legally be sent back to French addresses from another country.

To get urgent business correspondence from one side of Paris to another, chambers of commerce in the capital and surrounding areas have set up their own sorting offices to bypass the strikebound centers. The sorted mail is handed to the post office for delivery by nonstriking letter carriers.



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# Italy Awaits a Verdict in 1980 Airliner Disaster

By Joseph Fitchett  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Flying through clear skies, a DC-9 airliner on a domestic flight in Italy crashed under mysterious circumstances in June 1980 as it approached Sicily, killing the 81 passengers and crew, all Italians.

Eight years later, after lobbying by the victims' relatives, the government has ordered a new inquiry into the disaster, amid speculation that it was shot down by a missile fired by a Libyan or possibly Italian — aircraft. The press has accused the Italian military of a cover-up.

"Finally, the government has taken the right step," said Romeo Ferruci, the attorney representing an association of relatives, speaking Tuesday by telephone from Rome. "With such big international and financial interests at stake, it's taken us these years to get the investigation we were asking for."

Several previous inquiries have yielded unsatisfactory conclusions, including a government finding two years ago, without elaboration, that the crash was caused by an explosion.

Wreckage from the plane was

recovered from the seabed in June and sent to Britain to be analyzed at the Royal Artillery Research Development Establishment, whose findings will be submitted to a panel of Italian investigators. The panel is scheduled to report to the government next month.

The Italian news media have said

"With such big international and financial interests at stake, it's taken us these years to get the investigation we were asking for."

Romeo Ferruci, attorney for relatives.

telling Italian reporters on Monday in Tripoli that "everyone knows it was an American missile and not a Libyan missile" that brought down the airliner.

At the time of the crash, terrorists killed several Libyan émigrés in Italy after Colonel Gadhafi threatened to punish dissidents who refused to return to Libya. Italy's efforts to quell terrorism were led by Francesco Cossiga, who was prime minister at the time.

Mr. Cossiga, who is now president, reportedly intervened personally this summer to ensure that the DC-9 wreckage was sent to Britain for an independent examination.

The United States and France, both of which have fighters operating in the region, denied that their

planes were involved in the DC-9 episode. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization said it was not holding maneuvers in the area at the time of the crash.

Italy's defense minister, Valerio Zanone, has repeated earlier government denials that the Italian Air Force had any responsibility for the accident. He was rebutting accusations that an Italian fighter on a training exercise strayed off course, mistook the airliner for a target drone and hit it with a missile.

Mr. Zanone, replying to charges made by RAI-1, a state-owned television network, said that only two Italian military aircraft were operating in the area and that neither was armed with missiles.

Fragments of a radio-guided target were found near the airliner wreckage, but Italian military officers said they were debris from exercises months earlier.

Mr. Ferruci said his clients, in addition to learning how their relatives died, stand to collect substantial damages if responsibility for the crash can be established.

"The insurance so far was what you would pay for killing a chicken, not a person," Mr. Ferruci said. He

said the damages amounted to 50 million lira (\$38,500) for each victim.

The company operating the flight, the domestic airline Itavia, went out of business after the crash. It was accused of ignoring evidence of structural weakness in the plane that might have caused it to break up in midair.

Mr. Ferruci dismissed this theory, saying "They forced the company to disappear. We're sure it was a missile."

Signs of high-level interference in the case, he said, included the disappearance of radar records.

Some politicians have joined Mr. Ferruci in charging a cover-up. Giuliano Amato, the Treasury minister, told an Italian magazine that "from what I know of the military authorities' relations with politicians, it is possible that they covered up something."

Questioned in Parliament, Mr. Zanone complained that the reports had created "feelings of malaise" in the Italian military. Rejecting cover-up charges, he said that Defense Ministry officials and military officers were cooperating with the inquiry.

# White House Acknowledges Delaying Some Policies to Aid Bush Campaign

Washington Times Service

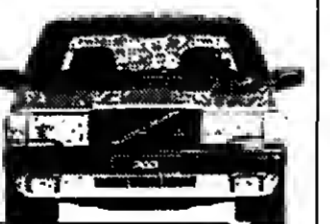
WASHINGTON — White House officials have acknowledged that the Reagan administration deliberately delayed a series of sensitive policy announcements until after the presidential election to protect Vice President George Bush's political interests.

One decision involved Social Security and welfare. On Tuesday, it was learned that the administration is preparing rules that would restrict the rights of people to appeal government decisions denying them Social Security or welfare benefits.

Other potentially unpopular moves made after the Nov. 3 election were a program to randomly test 4 million transportation workers for drug abuse, rules permitting employees in certain industries to work at home, and notification to 80,000 farmers that they could lose their property as a result of delinquent loans.

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, acknowledged in an interview that some decisions were slowed down for political reasons. "I don't doubt that it happened," he said, "but there was no conspiracy."

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INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

More PLO Ambiguity

The Palestine Liberation Organization meeting in Algiers proclaimed the independence of an unborn state and hinted at far-reaching moves toward a Middle East peace. But its final communiqué amounted to the same old fudge that Yasser Arafat has offered up for years...

"terrorism in all its forms." But the clause then "affirms the right of peoples to resist foreign occupation and colonialism and racial discrimination and their right to struggle for independence." This is the old Arafat hedge: condemning violence outside Israel and the occupied territories, but endorsing the "armed struggle" within Israel...

A Classic Russian Duet

The unlikely partnership of Mikhail Gorbachev and Andrei Sakharov has been an international fascination. Mr. Sakharov was cruelly exiled for using the platform of his eminence as a scientist and dissident to criticize arbitrary Communist rule...

upon a strain of deep common patriotism. Mr. Gorbachev personally freed Mr. Sakharov in a country where a victimized citizen's recourse to law for his liberty is just about zero. But Mr. Sakharov is in a sense now freeing Mr. Gorbachev — giving him the moral authority he needs to govern in a country where those who take political power are not accustomed to offering moral justification for their use or abuse of it...

Tokyo Loses Its Senator

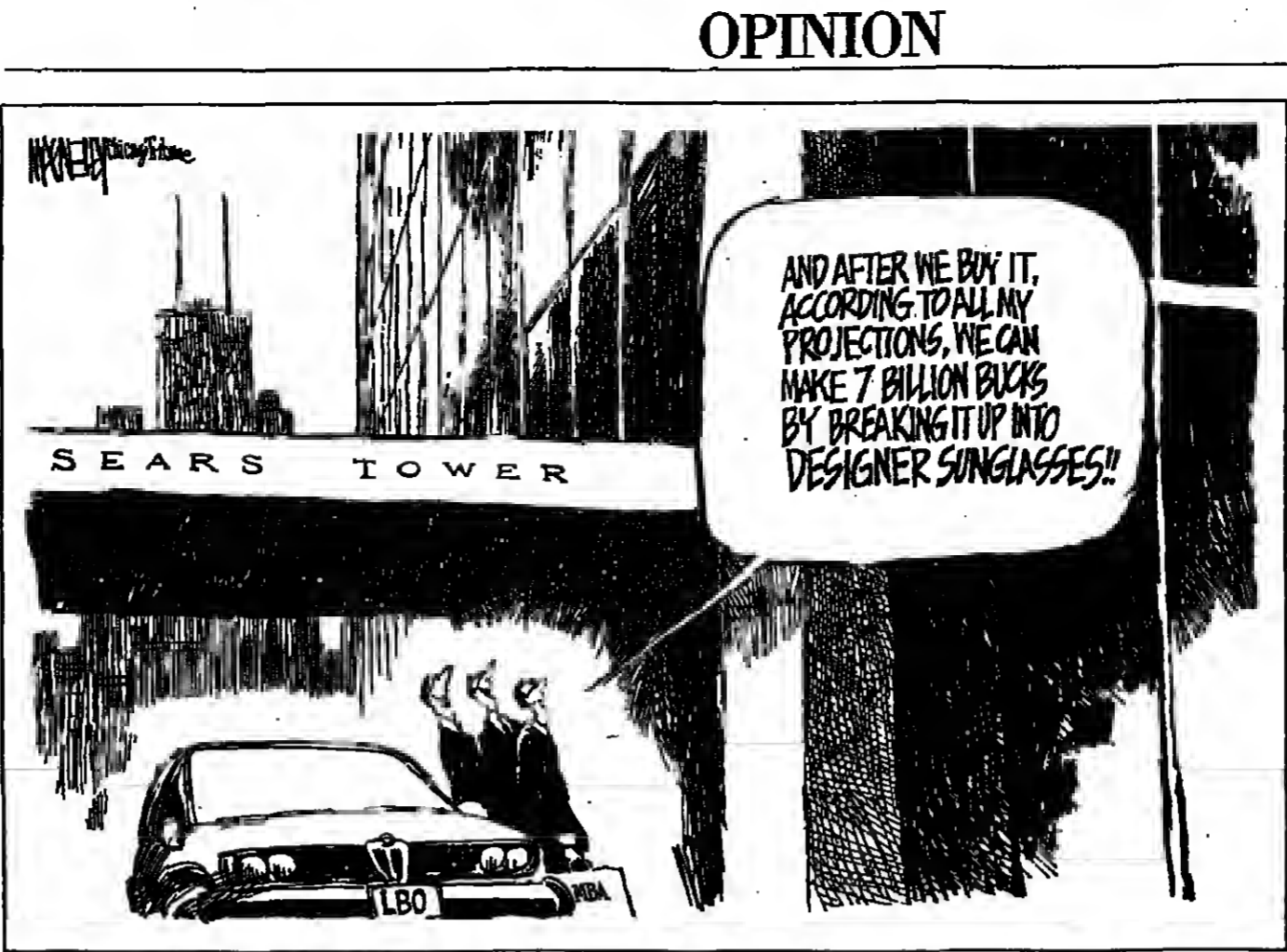
Ten or 20 or 30 years after most people have slowed down, Mike Mansfield is just retiring as ambassador to Japan. At age 85, he has been in Tokyo 11 years. Before that he served 34 years in Congress (a record 16 as Senate majority leader), taught Far Eastern history at the University of Montana and went to China as a 19-year-old marine...

a little bit of Burton K. Wheeler," the pre-World War II isolationist, LBJ once said of Mike Mansfield, who denied the very thought of it. The Mansfield President Johnson was nicking had become an implacable foe of the Vietnam War (and of the presidential powers used to conduct it) and was later to support unilateral cuts in American troops in Europe and South Korea...

Other Comment

PLO: A Step, but Not Enough Israel, at this time of inner turmoil, is poorly placed to face the challenge of the Palestine Liberation Organization whose chairman has at last led his colleagues to accept UN resolution 242, which implicitly acknowledges the existence of Israel. This is a singularly positive move on Yasser Arafat's part. He believes that it will help him regain the initiative internationally and among the Palestinians in the occupied territories...

welcome to the historic decision by the Palestine National Council to endorse UN Security Council resolution 242. Yitzhak Shamir deserves some understanding when he argues that the PLO's deep-seated objective remains the abolition of the Jewish state. The country is increasingly isolated internationally and under renewed pressure from the Arab world. On the Palestinian side, the reality is that any prospect of the disappearance of Israel is illusory...



Germany: A Nation of Two States in Slow Motion

ERLANGEN, West Germany — Mikhail Gorbachev and his advisers have given only the barest outline of what they mean by two states they have coined: "a European house," supposedly shared by Europeans of East and West, and "new thinking." What is clear is that Mr. Gorbachev has moved beyond the Soviet concept of the existence of two distinct nations in the part of Europe once called Germany...

By Michael Stürmer In the real world, German reunification as a Soviet gift and in isolation from the West would be a revolutionary transformation of the European map that would make Bismarck's policy of 1866-71 look as banal as a change of nameplates over a store. What Disraeli called the "German revolution," which transformed Europe in 1871, would be re-enacted on a global scale. The slow-moving European chess game would become fast poker overnight...

By Jim Hoagland WASHINGTON — "Politics and economics cannot be separated in a capitalist society, any more than religion and society in an Islamic one." Eric Hobsbawm writes in "The Age of Empire." These words could serve as the inscription on the political tombstone of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney if the ruling Conservative Party loses Canada's national election on Monday, as the polls now say it will...

Canada: The Global Economy Won't Be Serene

WASHINGTON — "Politics and economics cannot be separated in a capitalist society, any more than religion and society in an Islamic one." Eric Hobsbawm writes in "The Age of Empire." These words could serve as the inscription on the political tombstone of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney if the ruling Conservative Party loses Canada's national election on Monday, as the polls now say it will...

By John Ralston Saul TORONTO — Canadians are in the last days of an astonishing political fight, and the smell of an upset is in the air. Brian Mulroney and his Conservative Party, who four years ago won the greatest parliamentary majority in Canadian history, may lose it on Monday to John Turner, who entered the campaign with his Liberal Party divided and deeply in debt...

be a weak reed for Canada to lean on in a serious trade crunch. Mr. Mulroney's opponents say they will attempt the agreement if they win. But they have been careful to say they would seek a new agreement that would omit the most disadvantageous features of the Mulroney accord. These two aspects of their campaign present incoming Secretary of State Jim Baker and his aides with a major challenge before they are even in office — and with a way out of it...

A Vote on the Nature of the Country

TORONTO — Canadians are in the last days of an astonishing political fight, and the smell of an upset is in the air. Brian Mulroney and his Conservative Party, who four years ago won the greatest parliamentary majority in Canadian history, may lose it on Monday to John Turner, who entered the campaign with his Liberal Party divided and deeply in debt...

By John Ralston Saul such a populist crusade against a Canadian government. And there has never been a government so reliant upon the support of big business. If Mr. Mulroney loses, it will be a remarkable victory of the people and John Turner over money. After the debates and the new polls, business threw millions of dollars into advertising and began a scare campaign. There would be a recession, house prices would fall, the Americans would never forgive us; the economy would collapse...

1888: Pirates Raid Post MARSEILLES — The latest news from Touquin brings details of a serious fight which took place on the night of Oct. 2 between the occupants of the French military post at An-Chan and a band of Chinese pirates. The Chinese, who were 200 strong, succeeded in forcing the stockade of the fort, and threw themselves upon the defending force with the ferocity of demons. A terrible hand to hand struggle ensued, in which the pirates were finally repulsed with considerable loss. The French had three of the native soldiers were killed and a European sergeant badly wounded. Their magazine of supplies was burned, as well as several buildings occupied by the officers.

1913: Minister Resigns MEXICO CITY — Senor Manuel Garza Aldape, Minister of the Interior, has resigned, it is reported at the request of General Hineria. Senor Aldape may leave the country, as he fears for his life. Many Americans are leaving the capital daily. The tension continues to grow and a crisis is near. It is expected that definite action will be taken in regard to the demands of the United States within seventy-two hours.

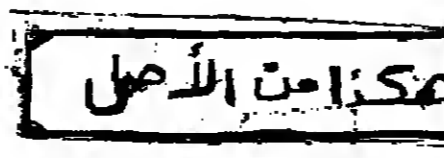
1938: Continental Guard WASHINGTON — A Western Hemisphere standing strongly together and ready to throw up a wall of armed force against totalitarianism was seen as a distinct possibility for the near future today [Nov. 16] by observers after weighing President Roosevelt's invitation to union yesterday and the quick and generally favorable reaction that it brought from Canada and from the other twenty American republics. Observers pointed out that the President's invitation to the other American powers to help defend the Americas against totalitarian aggression marked a switch from "national defense" to "continental defense" in the United States's policy.

Harangue Instead of Giving Up

By Flora Lewis SINTRA, Portugal — Next month brings the 40th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights. "Between hope and frustration" was the apt title for a meeting here on how to press ahead. Indeed, the record is spotty. Particularly in Third World countries, there is still angry controversy about whether rights should be considered universal, whether that claim isn't another Western presumption to know what's best for everybody. But the idea is spreading that there are common requirements for basic human dignity, and that sovereign independence confers no state immunity from criticism for the way it treats the people under its authority...

At least the perverse notion is waning that developing countries, unpracticed in self-government, deserve some special indulgence when they egregiously abuse their citizens. "This is the worst kind of double standard, pure racism," an Indian woman said sternly. The most unexpected changes have come in some Communist countries. They show it is worthwhile to keep on haranguing and complaining, not because the words move governments but because doing so gives people heart to know they are not alone. "A decent respect to the opinions of mankind," in the words of America's founders, remains a compelling claim on those who hold power. That it is hard to enforce does not diminish the responsibility to assert it nor justify cynical apathy. It is only 13 years ago that the Helsinki accords were signed, all governments of Europe undertook to assure their citizens. Some in the United States called for denouncing the accords as a fraud and a hypocrisy on the grounds that the Soviet Union gave them no more than lip service. Now Andrei Sakharov is visiting the United States, accompanied by seven dissident friends and seeking to establish a joint Soviet-American monitoring group. It was only a couple of years ago that he was nearly dead in enforced internal exile at Gorki, on hunger strike to obtain the right for his wife to seek medical treatment abroad. The Soviet Union has accepted that reports on violations of the Helsinki agreements are appropriate international discourse. Instead of repeating the old line that the accusations are an "intolerable interference in internal affairs," Moscow seeks to vie with the West by making changes of its own. The agenda is established and it is possible now to get on with the cases. No matter if the impulse is propaganda, the people are real. It is surprising that the Soviets are insisting so adamantly on a 1991 Helsinki review conference in Moscow, but they have made it a condition for ending the current stalled conference in Vienna. The risk, which Washington and Margaret Thatcher's Britain are so concerned about, is that the event will be used to cover continued Soviet abuses with diplomatic courtesy and new appearances of civility. But it is an opportunity that should not be lightly brushed aside. Certain conditions can be put, already considered normal at previous conferences, such as access for all human rights groups including Soviet citizens, and full publicity. If that puts Mikhail Gorbachev in a position to claim international support for ever more glasnost, what is the harm? It urges everyone else in a position to continue judging by the facts and to urge more implementation. The new Soviet press law that he has proposed is a troubling and ironic example of the obstacles to compliance with Helsinki objectives. The Soviet leadership talks of the need to establish the rule of law as a part of its reforms. The draft on the rights and obligations of the Soviet press is a bad law, with too many constraints and too few provisions for suppression. The difference with the press law that repression has been arbitrary, without benefit of law. Relaxation of censorship has made it possible for people like Sergei Grigoryants, publisher of the independent journal Glasnost, to slip through the cracks. It is better to have had rules than no rules and bad practice? The answer is, neither one is good enough. Demands must continue for free expression. That is the only way to the freedom and confidence of society, the constant capacity to monitor abuse, that Mr. Gorbachev professes to seek. Frustrations remain, but hopes glimmer. Forty years, 13 years, it's not so long in social history. The cynics give up too easily. The New York Times.

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# OMAN

Sultan Qaboos bin Said, ruler of Oman, has made self-reliance a national goal. In less than a generation he has transformed the Sultanate into a thoroughly modern state. Now the emphasis is on encouraging more investment and joint ventures.

ONCE the most backward of the Arabian peninsula nations, Oman has today taken a giant step forward into the 20th century and is now preparing to meet the needs of future generations. In the last 18 years, Sultan Qaboos bin Said has succeeded in molding his once primitive country into a land envied by many of its oil-rich neighbors. Oman has also played a major role on the international scene as one of the guardians of the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, and has used its diplomatic weight to help bring about the cease-fire in the Gulf War. And in a new era of "glasnost," it last month gave a red-carpet welcome to the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its southernmost neighbor, with whom it fought a bitter war in the 1970s. The two leaders signed a trade, economic and communications agreement.

When the young sultan came to the throne in 1970, there was only one small hospital in the capital, Muscat. There were practically no schools, no surfaced roads to speak of, no decent airports and a subsistence economy based almost entirely on farming and fishing. Anyone who had left

the sultanate before 1970 and returned today would find it hard, if not nearly impossible, to recognize old familiar landmarks, many of which have been swept away by the course of progress.

There are new hospitals (including a recently opened \$250 million, 630-bed Royal Hospital) and health clinics in every town and village. There are schools, a university, half a dozen luxury hotels and a network of surface roads linking every corner of the country, which stretches more than 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) from the searing heat of the Musandam peninsula beside the Strait of Hormuz to the tropical green of Dhofar province in the south. It is possible to make a phone call to anywhere in the world with little or no delay through the ISTD system. There are new international standard airports, an expanding oil industry and an increasing range of local manufacturing industries, ranging from plastics to a state-of-the-art copper smelter.

Sultan Qaboos and his government have succeeded in doing in less than one generation what many nations in the West have taken hundreds of years to achieve.

But Oman has had its



Sultan Qaboos bin Said, ruler of Oman since 1970.

problems, too. It fought a long, drawn-out guerrilla war with the Marxist Southern Yemen. It has survived the decline in oil revenues just as it was about to maximize its own production. Earlier this year, some parts of the country suffered severe devastation as a result of torrential rains. Today Oman is forging new diplomatic links, increasing its internationalization and encouraging more industrial joint ventures.

With the easing of entry restrictions, it is also developing its own tourist industry. Oman has a wealth of riches with which to support an economically important tourism sector. It has

started in a small way with selective groups of visitors, mainly from Europe. There are excellent hotels and many opportunities to visit important ancient, medieval and 18th century sites throughout the country. No other Arabian land has so much to offer. The genuine hospitality of the Omanis themselves makes a visit memorable.

This has been an important year in the history of Oman. At the start the Sultan outlined his national goals, aimed at greater self-reliance in both material and human resources. Greater Omanization of key sectors of the economy and industry is a paramount target, and Sultan Qaboos has urged greater cooperation between the private and state sectors in order to achieve this national objective.

Oman's Petroleum Development Agency is currently producing around 600,000 barrels of oil a day. Two new fields have just been discovered. In addition, gas is playing a more significant part in the hydrocarbon industry. Japan is the major importer of Oman's oil products, which account for more than 90 percent of total exports.

Because of the fall in oil prices from \$27 a barrel in 1986 to the current figure of around \$10, revenues have dropped sharply. Oil revenues this year are expected to reach RO 1.35 billion (\$3.5 billion). Major expenditure cuts on proposed public spending by the government have reduced the 1986 deficit of RO 742 million to RO 149 million. These savings have been made in order to conserve national reserves and maintain a higher level of international creditworthiness.

Finance Under-Secretary Mohammed bin Moosa Al Youssef told a group of potential investors earlier this year that the government had approved projects worth RO 352 million, part of a

total RO 780 million expenditure falling within the third five-year plan (1986-1990).

Oman's 25 banks are now trying to consolidate their overall position by making greater provisions for non-performing loans. Total lending at the end of 1987, according to Mr. Moosa, was estimated at RO 748 million. The banking sector, while acknowledging its current difficulties and reduced profits, considers the present period as a return to more normal times compared to the exceptionally profitable periods when oil prices were high.

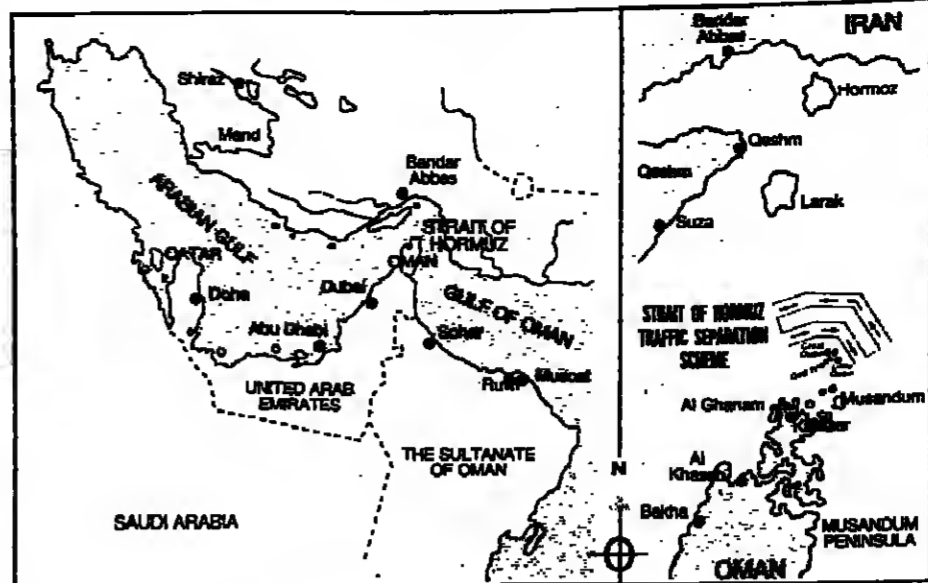
The most important development on the financial front is the imminent opening of the new stock exchange, which should encourage greater private-sector participation.

As it is, the government has now allocated some RO 88 million to help develop private-sector projects as part of its self-reliance plan. The manufacturing and industrial diversification strategy is also paying off, in spite of the general economic downturn. New companies continue to be registered (114 in the first half of this year), bringing the total to more than 30,000.

Although the per capita income has declined, Oman has continued to improve its overall infrastructure with additional power and water supplies, more low-cost housing and increased social services.

With the prospect of stability in the region and increased cooperation among the Gulf Cooperation Council members, Oman continues to play an important role as it moves toward greater self-sufficiency.

Lee Voysey



## Oil and Natural Gas Fuel the Country's Economy

PETROLEUM Development Oman's September announcement of the discovery of two more oil fields in Southern Oman reflects its continuous search for new oil reserves. Just six kilometers from Rajaa 1, its 50th field, brought into operation last June, light oil was struck at about 1,200 meters. The second find, also light oil, was at Zumrud in the Marmul area. Exploration Manager Peter de Ruiter says: "It's difficult to define the size of the find, but we're very encouraged to find oil in what was known to be a risky geological setting."

Oman, which is not a member of OPEC, has increased production in response to the failure of the organization to agree on output. Oil and related products accounted for 91 percent of Oman's exports in 1987. Japan was the big-

gest purchaser, with nearly 60 percent of oil exports going to industrialized countries. Gas is also playing an increasingly important role in the economy of the sultanate. A 36-inch pipeline is being laid 180 kilometers from Izz, south of Nizwa, to the Yibal field. This line will parallel an existing 30-inch line; looping has already been completed between the coast and Izz. The 13-meter lengths of special-grade pipe are being delivered in five shipments from Italy between now and the end of the year. The project is designed to be completed in time for next summer's peak demand.

Local consumption of gas is increasing as families turn away from cooking with firewood and imported coal. In 1980 there was a steady demand for 10,000 metric tons a year, but by 1987 the National Gas Company sold

an astounding 34,784 metric tons — a considerable jump from their initial 1981 total of 4,194 metric tons. Gas exploration and exploitation has gained new prominence in oil-field management. The commodity that used to be burned off as useless now finds ready buyers.

At the beginning of 1988, the Oman government appointed the U.K. company Deloitte, Haskins and Sells to undertake a study of supply and demand in order to set production targets for the next 40 years. Known natural gas reserves are thought to exceed 10 million cubic feet, and further sites are being explored. Sites include a number of offshore areas. The development of industry not only in Oman but in the Gulf as a whole further emphasizes the potential value of recoverable gas.

Boris Mallis

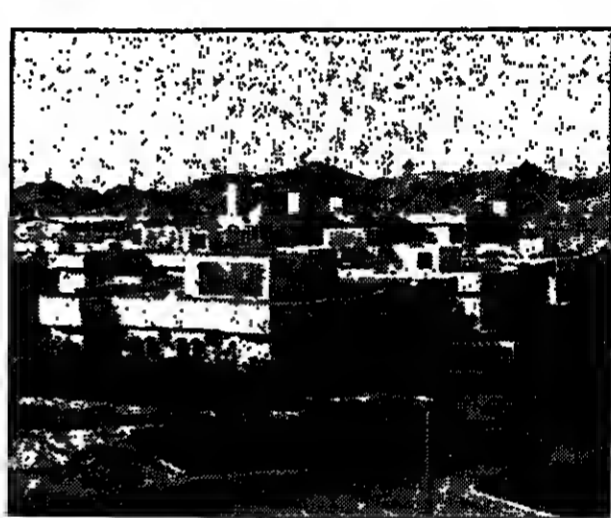
## From Textiles to Halwa

THE Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in association with the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, recently organized seminars to highlight opportunities in 13 new ventures. Inaugurating the Muscat seminar, Commerce and Industry Minister Salim bin Abdullah Al Ghazali said the government hoped that new and constructive ideas showing the way to better industrial policies would result, and that participants would have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the government incentives available to industrialists.

In the first two years of the five-year plan beginning in 1986, 656 new capital-intensive companies registered a total investment of more than \$356 million. Interest-free loans of approximately \$54 million were provided to some 58 industrial companies. In the first half of 1988, 114 companies were registered with a capital investment of nearly \$18 million. The newly licensed industries include poultry processing, a textile mill, shark processing, carpaulins and tents, castor oil and cakes, toilet soap, bleaching

and scouring powders, metal cans, polyethylene conversion, industrial truck bodies, adhesive tapes and water pumps. Care has been exercised to distribute a share of the industrial development to the south and to the interior areas.

Within the Rusayl Industrial Estate, some 45 kilometers (27.9 miles) from Muscat and six kilometers from the international airport at Seeb, the Omar Zawawi Establishment will open a 10,000-square-meter (107,639-square-foot) textile mill in November. According to the Oman Textile Mills Company S.A.O. general manager Mr. Y. Gopal Krishnan, the mill is equipped with the latest Sulzer Bros. P7100 weaving machines from Switzerland, which will give a capacity of about 8 million meters (around 8.75 million yards) per year. The factory aims to be highly flexible in its product mix, and will be able to produce a wide range of fabrics. Estimating the total Omani fabric market at 25 million meters per year, the goal is to compete with imported fabrics on a quality rather than price basis. The project, with an investment cost of around \$22 million, is expected to be offered in



Rusayl Industrial Estate.

part to investors on the new Oman Stock Exchange.

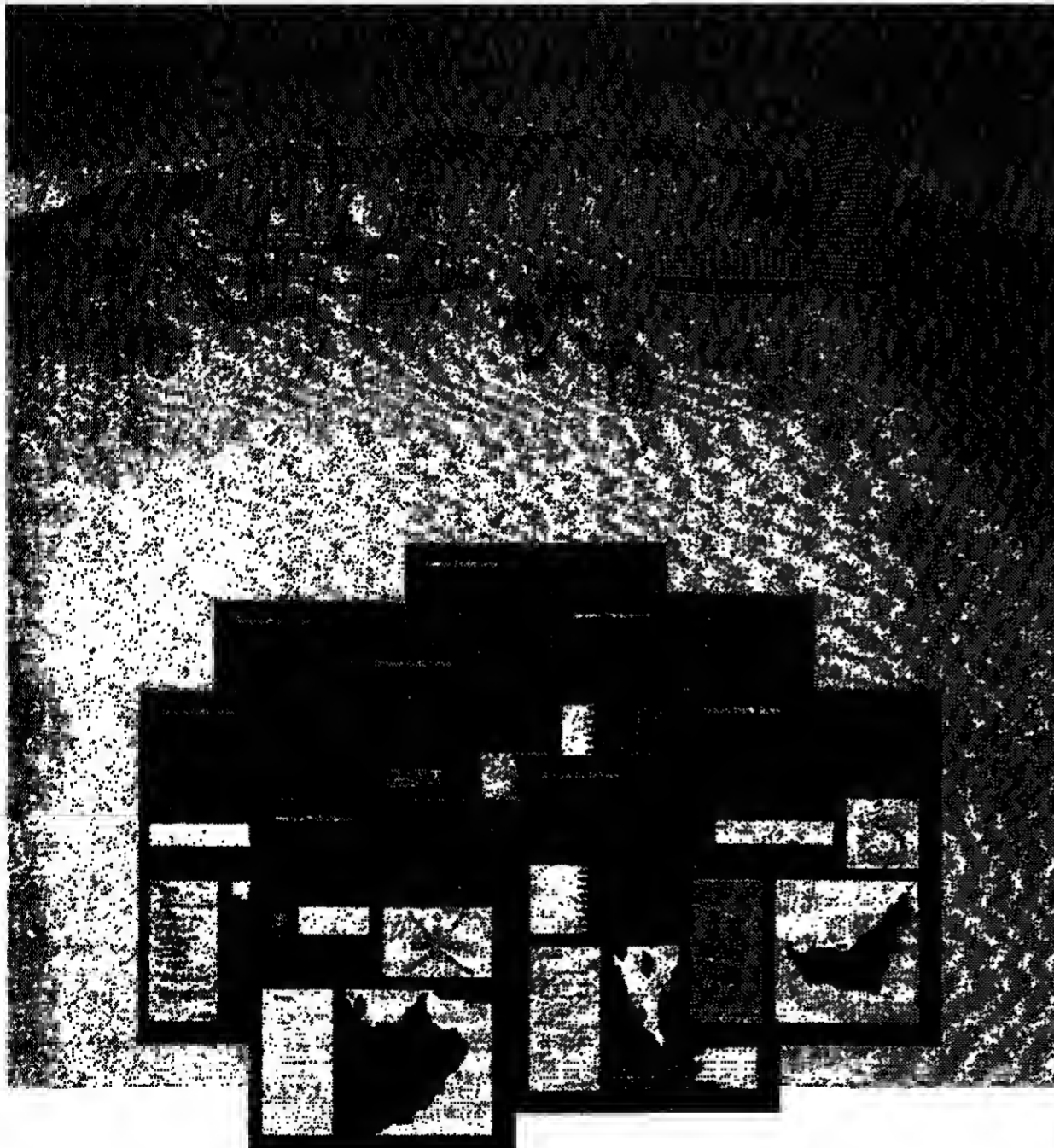
Another Omani conglomerate, Sabco, which includes the frankincense-based Amouage range of perfumes and toiletries, has promoted another venture with a local bias. They have linked up with sweet and chocolate makers Barker & Dobson to manufacture a range of confectionery based on Omani halwa. Made from sugar and ghee (clarified butter) and flavored with rose water and spices, halwa varies slightly from district to district in flavor, but is traditionally served with the slightly bitter cardamom-flavored Omani coffee. Sabco's Mr. Hikmat

Dandan reports that it plans to make a "Halwa Bar" in the style of a Mars bar, boxed chocolates filled with halwa in semiliquid and fondant form, halwa-flavored coffee and a boiled sweet flavored with halwa. The \$3.25 million project is in partnership with Zubair Enterprises, and 25 percent of the company will be made available on the new stock exchange.

Growth is being seen in the mining and processing of copper, a project included in the first five-year plan. Development Council statistics show an increase in the export of copper cathodes during the first three months of this year, from \$6.6 million in 1987 to \$12 million in 1988. The Omani government recently entered into an agreement with the Bureau for Geological and Mining Research to evaluate copper reserves in Northern Oman. Reports speak of copper deposits "streaked with gold and silver" being found.

In regard to the formation of the National Fisheries Company, Mr. L.C. Llewellyn, chief executive of Ominvest, the major investment and development company, says that this is a sensible approach to regulating the exploitation of the sultanate's resources. The waters around the coasts of Oman are rich in fish, and he is pleased to see that the fishing industry will be managed to benefit the people of Oman.

B. M.



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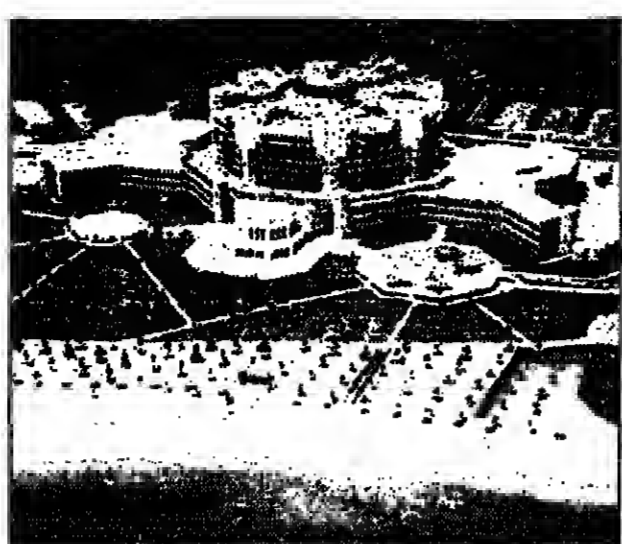


**Economy**  
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Bevis M.

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Tourists visit an old fort in Oman (left), and the Al Bustan Palace Hotel (right).



## Ancient Sites and Modern Hotels

**T**HE development of Oman's tourism industry has been as gradual and as carefully orchestrated as any part of the country's socioeconomic renaissance. The result is a delightfully unique mixture of the ancient and the ultra-modern. Great pains have been taken to ensure that Oman's rich cultural heritage suffers minimum damage. From the moment the visitor is first set down at the impressive international Seeb Airport, Muscat, the high quality of life in Oman is evident. The buildings are well designed and efficiently run.  
Each of Oman's luxurious international hotels is set in lovely surroundings. From the privately owned and managed Al Falaj Hotel, Muscat's oldest established international hotel, to the Intercontinental Group (Al Bustan and Intercontinental), Sheraton, Accor, Holiday Inn — all are here. Facilities compare favorably with those of luxury hotels the world over, and the cuisine is varied and excellent. The southern capital, Salalah, is also being developed for

tourists. Its lush vegetation reflects a completely different climate influenced by the monsoon.  
About halfway down the coast to Salalah is the Sur Beach Resort Motel. Inland, in a delightful and historic town, the Nizwa Al Falaj Motel provides an oasis of peace and welcome. In the north, the Sobar Motel is an especially pleasant stopping place.  
But the sultanate of Oman offers more than just good hotels. This is a land of rich contrasts. Stark mountain ranges, the ever changing patterns of desert sands and the lush greenery of the wadis of the interior vie with ancient cities and historic buildings. There are miles of unspoiled beaches, clear blue seas, a myriad of tropical fish and fascinating fishing villages. Oman is a land of legend, and claims to have been the home of the Queen of Sheba and Sinbad the Sailor. For centuries, the celebrated frankincense of the Salalah area was carried to Rome and beyond.  
The Al Bustan Palace Hotel, managed by Mr. Heinrich Pannen for the In-

tercontinental Group, is a modern palace built to house the heads of the GCC states in royal splendor. Mr. Pannen considers tourism in the sultanate of Oman to be progressing well. During 1987 he welcomed groups from Germany, Austria and Switzerland, who spent some 5,000 room-nights in the hotel. In 1988-89 he expects this figure to more than double. He credits this increase jointly to the efforts of the hotels and the publicity undertaken by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The possibility of a new 72-hour visa would, he feels, encourage expatriates living in other Gulf states to join the increasing flow of tourists from neighboring countries.  
At the Oman Sheraton Hotel, Mr. Dieter Janssen, vice president and general manager, says: "1987 could hardly be described as a tourism year, since it was only in the second quarter that tourism really got started." He points out that the lead time in international tourism is a lengthy one. Tour operators have been working hard for 1988, and considerable allot-

ment bookings await confirmation. He considers that a tourism-development blueprint is needed to more clearly define the objectives of the hotel industry.  
Mr. Tolly Papayannis of the Al Falaj Hotel says that in 1987 the international financial crisis resulted in fewer guests, despite Oman's own healthy financial condition. There has been an improvement in the second half of 1988, but business is still down. For 1989 he predicts steady growth in the number of visitors from the Gulf, Europe, the United States and Japan.  
"Oman's hotels set the highest standard in the Gulf," says Mr. Papayannis, "but the best tourist venue is the hotel that does the most for the tourist. This is not always the biggest or the most expensive."  
Mr. Papayannis praises the hard work of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, saying that Minister Salim bin Abdullah Al Ghazali and the Tourism Director Mohammed Ali Said are a driving force.  
B. M.

## Agriculture Policy: Stem Rural Exodus

**T**HIS has been a significant year for the development of agricultural resources. Sultan Qaboos bin Said made an important policy decision when he declared 1988 "Agriculture Year." A number of new irrigation and livestock breeding projects have been started in a bid to make the sultanate more self-sufficient in agriculture. The renewed emphasis on agriculture is also an attempt to stem the exodus from rural areas to the new, expanding urban centers.  
Until the discovery of oil in 1967, Oman's subsistence economy was almost entirely based on agriculture and fishing. The subsequent changes were quicker and in some ways more abrupt than those in other Arabian countries. As a result, many of the 1.5 million people living in the rural areas left their villages to seek work in the towns. This led to a sharp decline in agricultural production and a waste of resources due to inefficient husbandry.  
Oman has a more varied climate and terrain than any other country in the Arabian peninsula: the harsh, mountainous northern Musandam peninsula where temperatures soar to more than 50 degrees C (122 degrees F.) in the summer, the low-lying plainlands of the Bahla coast and the rich semi-tropical forestlands of the far south. These contrast sharply with the "Empty Quarter" desert areas where Oman borders Saudi Arabia in the south and the high inland ranges of the Jebel Akhdar.  
With such a variety of growing conditions Oman has a rich potential for all kinds of fruit, from apricots, peaches, almonds and walnuts from the heights of the Jebel Akhdar to temperate-

climate fruits and vegetables from the foothills. Dates and limes are grown in the lowlands in northern Oman and such fruits as coconuts, bananas and papayas are cultivated in the tropical Salalah plains in the south.  
Today some fruits and vegetables are exported to other Gulf countries, but they do not match the scale of exports in ancient times, when Oman was the center of the world's frankincense trade.  
Because of the drift away from farming, the ancient irrigation system of deep underdrainage channels cut into the rocks has fallen into decay.  
About 41,000 hectares (101,000 acres) of land are currently under cultivation. But new land-usage and ground-water surveys have indicated that this figure could be increased by a further 72,000 hectares.  
In order to encourage a return to the farms, in 1981 the government formed the Bank of Agriculture and Fisheries with a capital of RO 19 million (\$63 million), which provides loans to enable farmers to buy seeds and equipment.  
A major program of reconstructing the old irrigation channels is under way. New ground-water collecting and distribution techniques are being harmonized with the ancient irrigation systems of canals and aqueducts.  
Nine new recharge dams are planned to conserve rainwater for farmers in various parts of Oman. The one at Tanuf, near Nizwa, will cover an area of two square kilometers and will hold a million cubic meters of water when completed, at a cost of \$3.25 million. Agriculture has always been regarded as one of Oman's natural resources. By improving water management, not only can agricultural im-

ports be reduced, but a considerable export potential realized.  
"It is very difficult to get the farmers to adapt to new methods for irrigation, like water sprinklers," says Mr. Saud bin Salim Al Harthy of the Agriculture and Fisheries bank. "They are very skeptical."  
By the end of this year, 2,500 government research and experimental farms will have been created throughout the country. A major new project calls for 300 model livestock breeding farms, which will eventually help boost goat-meat production. There are some 700,000 goats, 200,000 sheep, 140,000 head of cattle, 79,000 camels and 24,000 donkeys in Oman.  
Dr. Khamfar bin Abdullah of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries says: "The new farm centers are bound to yield better returns. We want them to serve as models for other farms."  
The government also hopes to increase beef and veal production to reduce

the heavy burden of imports, which amounts to about 75 percent of total needs.  
As well as encouraging production, the government has created the Public Authority for the Marketing of Agricultural Products (PAMAP) to form better links between farmers and traders. PAMAP also helps show farmers how to package their produce and improve quality control.  
In addition, PAMAP promotes the sale of Omani products overseas and sponsors seminars and exhibitions. This year the 19th Near East regional Food and Agriculture Organization conference was held in Oman. Next week, beginning November 24, Oman will stage an international agriculture and fisheries exhibition which will highlight the country's own food and food processing services. Last year more than 15,000 visitors attended a similar event.  
L.V.

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## Bankers Expect Increased Profits

**W**ITH a currency pegged to the U.S. dollar and in the face of rising import costs, the Omani government's firm action in postponing development projects has dramatically reduced the 1987 budget deficit to RO149 million (around \$300 million), down from RO 700 million in 1986. The postponements have resulted in reductions in construction material sales and a sharp fall in expatriate labor, reducing purchasing levels. With bank assets down 4 percent in 1987, both the national and foreign banks are making every effort to stave off a second year of diminished profits. Oman, fortunate to have completed much of its infrastructure prior to the downturn in the international oil market, is now in a good position to reap benefits.  
Mr. L.C. Llewellyn, chief executive of Ominvest, the leading investment and development company, says,

"In the boom periods profits were unreasonably high due to the general level of activity. They now seem far more realistic. Banks are now facing a combination of reduced lending opportunities and increased exposure on bad loans." He views the coming stock exchange as an excellent development, which will help put realistic values on local companies.  
Initially, he says, the exchange will not be patterned on European and American markets, which handle vast numbers of quoted companies. Licensed banks, insurance companies and of course Ominvest itself may well handle underwriting functions. Government and private bonds may be traded, and new instruments such as convertible bonds are to be expected.  
Mr. R.C. Allenby, area manager for the British Bank of the Middle East (BBME), says, "We anticipate an improved profit position for 1988, coming mainly from the bank's his-

torical relationship with traders rather than contractors." As for possible bank mergers, he considers size to be less important than the quality of assets and liability management. The growth of secondary finance, he says, is demand-driven by the basic need for financing during a time of recession.  
This natural widening of the financial base is controllable by the Central Bank regulation process. He expects a gradual development of the stock exchange, with no mad rush by corporate entities to recognize the exchange as a source of development funds.  
"The BBME's technical advances are also helping the corporate customer," Mr. Allenby points out. The Hexagon Global Electronic

Services system is proving popular and successful. This is an expanded cash management system using a computer network to assist in all banking and financial transactions, including account positions and up-to-the-minute stock market reports.  
Oman National Insurance Company (ONIC), the leading national insurer, whose associate company Capital Leasing L.L.C. operates a wide range of alternative capital schemes for commerce and industry, has announced its intention to form a holding company. This move would develop investment interests and include the existing insurance company and a new life insurance company as well as Capital Leasing L.L.C.  
B. M.

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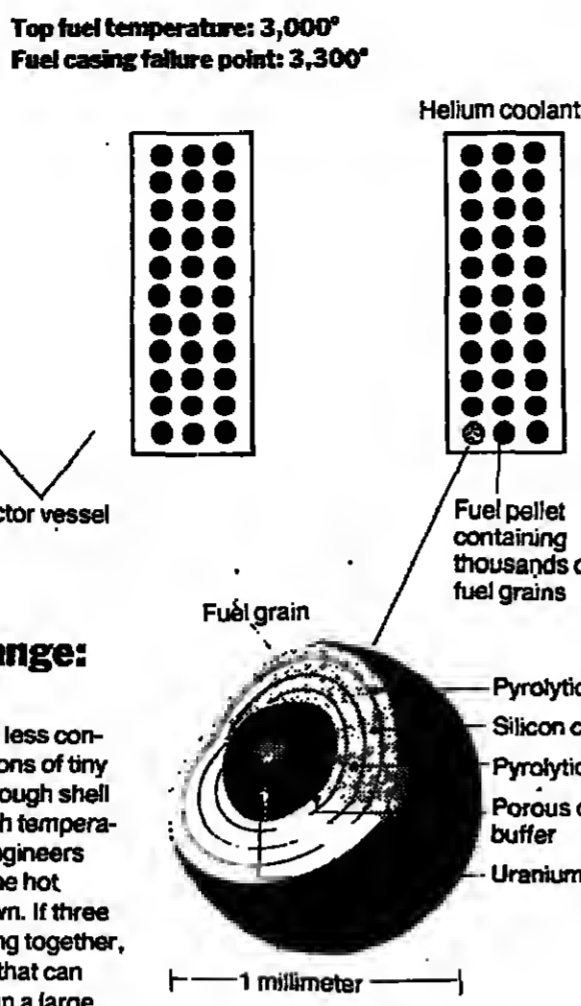
SCIENCE

Now, a 'Meltdown-Proof' Reactor

By William J. Broad
NEW type of nuclear reactor, designed to be immune to meltdown, is being seen by experts as a safer alternative to conventional reactors...

The Critical Change: Fuel Design

A new type of reactor uses less concentrated fuel made of billions of tiny grains, each encased in a tough shell that can withstand very high temperatures...



The New York Times, science section

While many skeptics remain cool to nuclear power, calling it inherently dangerous, growing ranks of scientists, U.S. officials and even environmental groups are re-examining nuclear power to see whether it might be more environmentally benign than fossil-fuel power plants...

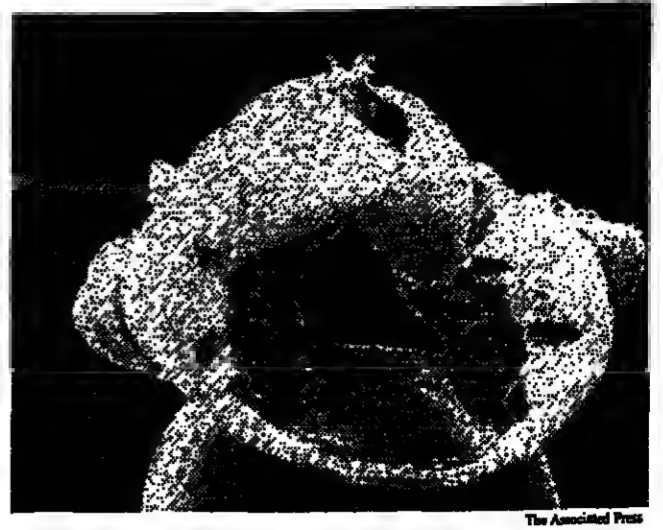
ills, recently called for "a fresh look at nuclear power," citing the threat of climatic destruction. The new interest in nuclear power comes a decade after the reactor business all but died in the United States...

Since the top temperature that fuel grains can achieve in such a reactor is about 3,000 degrees, there is no way for them to melt through the protective capsules, no matter what the accident, nuclear engineers say...

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Oldest Insect In the World?

This fossil, which has been magnified 160 times, was found in Quebec and has been identified as part of the oldest known insect, a distant relative of the silverfish that lived more than 390 million years ago...



The Associated Press

For Sale: Engineered Mice

THE Do Point Co. has announced that it will begin selling genetically engineered mice early next year, a move that for the first time will bring to the commercial marketplace higher life forms manipulated by the tools of biotechnology...

"Saying that an animal that is genetically engineered can be patented and sold is the official endorsement that animals are human creations, that they are simply commodities, and are not ours in trust," said Michael Fox, vice president for bioethics for the Humane Society of America...

Depression-Addiction Links Studied

RESEARCH suggests that many Americans, conceivably more than a million in all, are abusing alcohol or drugs primarily because they are suffering from serious underlying depression or anxiety...

The research is aimed at defining that subgroup of drug and alcohol abusers and at giving such patients treatment that will help their psychiatric problems and their drug abuse at the same time...

In the research, carefully chosen patients are given imipramine, a widely used anti-depression drug. The objective is to see if the medication helps reduce the patients' addictions to drugs or alcohol...

NYSE Most Active table with columns: Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg.

Market Sales table with columns: NYSE adv. vol, NYSE adv. value, Amex adv. vol, etc.

NYSE Index table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg.

Wednesday's NYSE Closing logo and text: Via The Associated Press

AMEX Diary table with columns: Class, Prev., Adv. Declined, etc.

NASDAQ Index table with columns: Class, Prev., Adv. Declined, etc.

AMEX Most Active table with columns: Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg.

Dow Jones Bond Averages table with columns: Bond, Yield, Chg.

NYSE Diary table with columns: Class, Prev., Adv. Declined, etc.

Odd-Lot Trading in N.Y. table with columns: Buy, Sell, % of 1001.

Dow Jones Averages table with columns: Open, High, Low, Last, Chg.

Standard & Poor's Index table with columns: Industry, High, Low, Close, Chg.

NASDAQ Diary table with columns: Class, Prev., Adv. Declined, etc.

AMEX Stock Index table with columns: High, Low, Close, Chg.

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

NYSE Slides After Trade News table (left side) with columns: 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, etc.

NYSE Slides After Trade News

NEW YORK — Stock prices plunged on the New York Stock Exchange in moderate trading Wednesday, as the market's concerns about the economy were unassuaged by the report of a narrowing in the U.S. trade deficit in September...

The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 12.09 points Tuesday, plunged 38.59, to 2,038.58. Declines trounced advances by a 4-1 margin. Big Board volume totaled 161.71 million shares, up from 115.17 million traded on Tuesday...

NYSE Slides After Trade News table (middle) with columns: 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, etc.

NYSE Slides After Trade News table (right) with columns: 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, etc.

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INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

For Foreign Executives, U.S. Visas Harder to Get

By SHERRY BUCHANAN

NEW YORK — New U.S. regulations are making it more difficult for American multinational companies to transfer their foreign executives back to U.S. headquarters and for foreign multinationals to move their executives to their subsidiaries in the United States.

One year after enactment of the 1987 regulations of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, a branch of the Department of Justice, the new rules have made it tougher for multinationals to prove that an employee is a manager or an executive and so eligible for an L1 visa, the temporary, intracompany transfer permit.

"In the past, as long as a person just managed a function without supervising individuals, that was enough," said Ronald Tekely, head of immigration services for Westinghouse Electric Corp.

Mr. Tekely now has to inform U.S. authorities of the academic qualifications of the people the foreign executive will be supervising to prove they are professionals. A first-line supervisor, meaning one who oversees ordinary employees rather than other managers, is not considered to be a manager, nor is a sales representative who does not oversee anybody.

The immigration service and the multinational business lobby agreed that Congress would have to make some changes. One immigration service proposal is to increase the legal immigration quota for "professionals" as opposed to managers.

The immigration service, in any case, wants to keep people out who are not vital to a company's operations and who could be taking away jobs from Americans.

But MULTINATIONALS and industry representatives argue that the immigration service's definition of a manager is outdated, and that employees who have high salaries and a high degree of responsibility are managers even if they do not oversee a large number of other managers or professionals.

For example, Alcan's U.S. headquarters wanted to bring in a Canadian executive to set up the same strict product safety program already in force in Canada. He was refused the L1 visa because he would not be overseeing a large enough number of managers.

Willfred Race, head of immigration services for Eastman

See VISAS, Page 15

Read All About It: Izvestia Set to Try Western Advertising

By Celestine Bohlen

NEW YORK — Starting next year, the 10.5 million readers of the Soviet government daily newspaper Izvestia will open their Tuesday papers to find a special supplement featuring Western advertisements for Western goods.

Izvestia will become the first major Soviet newspaper to try to put foreign businesses in touch with the Soviet market, following up on new joint-venture laws introduced by President Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Western ads already appear in such smaller publications as Moscow News, a weekly aimed largely at foreign readers. But Izvestia, an eight-page paper filled with official reading for government bureaucrats, factory managers and others, is

to be the first widely distributed publication to give its subscribers a glimpse into Western stores.

Most of the advertisements are likely to be aimed at those Soviet companies that are now allowed to accumulate hard currency and that are looking for ways to spend it wisely.

Since the distribution of Western goods in Soviet shops is still tightly controlled, there is little chance that Izvestia readers will be tempted by the full-page spreads of high fashion at low prices.

"We are not going to be advertising Mercedes-Benzes," said Alexander Shalnev, New York bureau chief for Izvestia.

Mr. Shalnev said that a letter soliciting the ads was being distributed among U.S. businesses, and he described the initial response as "tremendous."

"You could figure that a lot of Ameri-

'You could figure that a lot of American corporations would be interested in what we have to offer.'

Alexander Shalnev, New York bureau chief for Izvestia.

can corporations would be interested in what we have to offer," he said. Demand was so great that copies of the first letter, which begins "Dear Business Friends,"

ran out at a meeting this week, and more had to be made on the spot, he added.

For Izvestia, the advertisements will help in the transition to "self-accounting," the new Soviet economic principle that makes state-owned enterprises self-supporting.

The newspaper, which ranks after the Communist Party newspaper Pravda as must reading for Soviet officials, is also looking for hard currency, Mr. Shalnev said, to modernize its equipment.

According to Mr. Shalnev, Izvestia will be allowed to keep 70 percent of its profit from the supplement. The remainder will go to the government.

One-quarter of the new supplement will be reserved for advertising by Soviet ministries, enterprises and stores, he added. On a per-reader basis, the rates now

offered by Izvestia — \$50,000 a page — are drastically lower than those offered by U.S. newspapers.

But comparisons between U.S. and Soviet newspapers are specious.

No U.S. newspaper has any claim to the kind of circulation that Izvestia has, although U.S. consumers have a higher proportion of disposable income and wider range of choice of goods.

The Wall Street Journal, with a circulation of 1.6 million, charges \$109,000 for a full-page advertisement, while USA Today, with 1.3 million readers, charges \$38,175 for a one-page black-and-white advertisement.

The industry measure, calculated in cost per thousand readers, is \$25.70 at The Wall Street Journal, and \$28.83 at USA Today. The Izvestia rate would equal \$4.76.

ed Mice

that an animal that is genetically patented and sold in the official animal markets is the official mouse, and is not owned by the University of America. "But in a patent court human ingenuity," two dozen other animal-patent attorneys made to the U.S. Patent Office, genetically altered animals are used for such purposes as improving pharmaceutical research.

Links Study

or cocaine for relief. The cocaine may help for a while, but neither alcohol nor cocaine is an effective long-term solution to the problems of depression. As a result, the habits are addictive. If the addiction is long enough, it takes a drug addict

Links Study

In the research, cardiac patients are given amphetamines widely used anti-depressants. The objective is to see if cocaine helps to reduce medication to drugs or to help patients in what or alcohol abuse was the problem. But the treatment has helped many of the cocaine users, he said.

AMEX Most Active

Table with columns: Vol., High, Low, etc. for various stocks.

AMEX Stock List

Table with columns: High, Low, etc. for various stocks.

Drinking water...

is safer with AMETEK filter housings and related components and impurities.

AMETEK



Line Stock

Table with columns: Line, Stock, etc.

Line Stock

Table with columns: Line, Stock, etc.

Operating Rate Up In U.S.

Inflation May Be Building Pressure

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — In a sign that the robust U.S. economy may be approaching an inflationary level of growth, the Federal Reserve Board reported Wednesday that the industrial operating rate in October rose to its highest level in more than eight years.

The central bank said that U.S. factories, mines and utilities operated at 84 percent of their capacity last month, up 0.2 percentage point from the revised September rate and the highest level since February 1980.

The September inventory increase followed a large 1.1 percent gain in August and a 0.7 percent rise in July. The last decline was in December 1986.

The combination of rising inventories and flat sales is a sign of economic weakness. If the trend continued, it could lead to fewer orders from retailers, so they could sell off their backlogs of goods, and consequently to production cutbacks and layoffs at factories.

The overall increase in the operating rate largely reflects higher output rates in durable goods manufacturing industries, especially motor vehicles, non-electrical machinery and fabricated metal products, the Fed said.

An advance estimate of retail sales for October, released Tuesday, showed a strong 0.9 percent gain, evidence that the accumulation of inventories may have moderated somewhat as the fourth quarter began.

At Last, GM Starts to Accelerate

Cost-Cutting Bears Fruit, and New Models Are Coming

By John Holusha

DETROIT — When General Motors Corp. reported in late October that third-quarter earnings were 51.4 percent higher than in the adjusted quarter a year earlier, the first reaction of many people was a question: Had GM, after years of sliding sales, internal turmoil and lackluster products, finally turned the corner?

The answer appears to be a qualified yes. Although car sales are still weak, sales in the increasingly important light-truck market have been strong all year.

More important, the effects of fewer incentives for buyers, higher prices and a two-year cost-cutting campaign finally seem to be flowing to the bottom line.

Even though the company still badly needs some hot-selling car models to convince investors and the public that it has regained its

feeling for the U.S. automobile market, many analysts and industry watchers said they felt the elements for financial recovery were in place.

"My personal view is that the recovery will come so fast it will take people by surprise," said Charles Brady, an analyst with Oppenheimer & Co. "They are following in the footsteps of Ford by first getting their costs under control. Now they need some products people can get excited about."

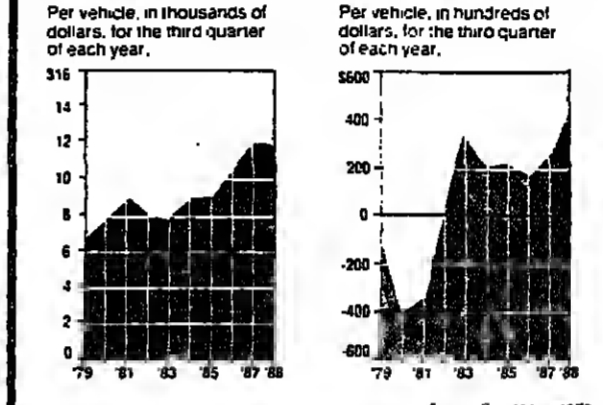
The company's progress has not gone unnoticed, with GM's stock rising more than 30 percent this year. Its shares ended Wednesday at \$79.25 on the New York Stock Exchange, down \$1.87, as the entire market slid.

When GM reported on Oct. 27 that it had earned \$2.46 a share in the financial community's consensus forecast of about \$1.40, analysts immediately dissected the numbers to see if some unusual factors or accounting wizardry were responsible.

The general conclusion was that the company got big lifts from its European operations — although it does not break out those earnings separately — and from higher truck sales, that its 2.9 percent price increase on

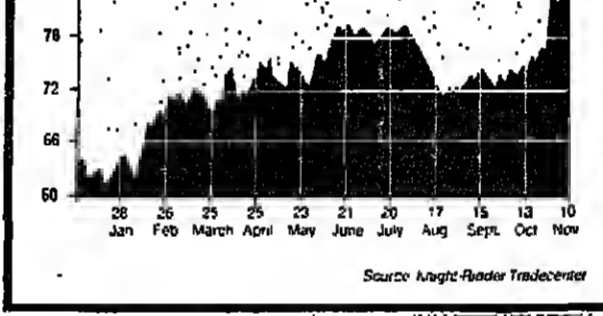
An Upturn Begins at G.M.

After years of troubles, the General Motors Corporation reported third-quarter earnings this year that were much higher than analysts had expected.



And the Market Reacts Favorably

Daily close on the New York Stock Exchange since Jan. 1.



1989 models had largely been accepted and that it was operating its factories and offices more efficiently than in the past.

GM has not brought out any highly successful products to compare with Ford's Taurus and Saab's midsize cars, but its new full-size pickup truck has been selling briskly and it has an array of new car models coming to market.

Editors of automotive publications said these newer models were a solution to the "look-alike car" problem that depressed GM sales throughout the mid-1980s.

GEC, Siemens In £1.7 Billion Bid for Plessey

By Warren Getler

LONDON — General Electric Co. of Britain and Siemens AG of West Germany said Wednesday that they were making a joint, unsolicited cash offer for Plessey Co., a major British telecommunications and electronics group.

The bid was for 225 pence a share, or about £1.7 billion (\$3.1 billion). But Plessey rejected the bid and recommended to its shareholders that they take no action.

If successful, the takeover would create a major European-based telecommunications giant to compete with North American, Japanese and Scandinavian companies.

For Siemens, analysts said the move would offer access to Britain's large market of military contracts, where the Ministry of Defense is seeking to diversify suppliers.

Siemens and General Electric both cited the need for ambitious cross-border alliances as the European Community nears its 1992 deadline for an integrated market.

Karlheinz Kaske, chairman of Siemens, said Wednesday at a news conference in London that GEC and Siemens would gain strength by joining forces.

Mr. Kaske said that he and Lord Weinstock, managing director of GEC, had not been in touch with their respective regulatory authorities about the antitrust dimension of the proposed takeover.

But many observers in London believe that the offer, which has been under discussion for a number of months, had been privately presented to antitrust officials in both countries because of its potential gravity in the market.

Brian Newman, industry analyst with Chase Manhattan Securities in London, said that he believed that the offer had been structured to circumvent concerns by British antitrust officials about market shares in the defense sector.

"GEC and Siemens will retain separately operating defense operations," he said, noting that Siemens in effect would replace Ples-

Early Trading Boosted Shares

LONDON — Sources close to the London Stock Exchange said Wednesday that it would investigate abnormally heavy trading in Plessey shares prior to the £1.7 billion (\$3.1 billion) takeover bid by General Electric and Siemens.

But the exchange declined to confirm whether it was conducting an investigation. Rumors that GEC and Siemens would launch a bid began circulating Tuesday, and by the close of trading more than 15 million Plessey shares changed hands. On Tuesday, Plessey shares closed at 175 pence, up 10 pence. Wednesday, the issue gained 49 pence, to 224.

At present, Siemens and General Electric work together on electrical lamps and lighting equipment through the joint venture OSRAM-GEC Ltd.

The offer reflects a 28 percent premium to Plessey's closing share price on Tuesday on the London Stock Exchange.

GEC, which is not associated with the U.S. company of the same name, was thwarted in an earlier attempt to acquire Plessey in 1985. The British Monopolies and Mergers Commission ruled in August 1986 that the merger of Britain's second and third largest military contractors would stifle competition in the domestic market.

But the commission encouraged the two companies to combine their telecommunications divisions, which they did in March by forming a joint venture. GEC Plessey

See PLESSEY, Page 15

Greenspan Says Deficit Is Gnawing at Economy

WASHINGTON — Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, on Wednesday urged Congress and the White House to cut the huge U.S. budget deficit, which he said was slowly destroying the American economy.

"Such large and persistent deficits are slowly but inexorably damaging the economy," Mr. Greenspan told the National Economic Commission, a bipartisan panel charged with recommending ways to reduce the federal deficit.

He said the need for cuts was becoming more pressing. "If we do not act promptly, the imbalances in the economy are such that the effects of the deficit will be increasingly felt and with some immediacy," Mr. Greenspan said.

President-elect George Bush has suggested reducing the budget deficit by freezing spending at current levels after allowing for inflation, and by encouraging economic growth, which would increase tax revenues.

But Mr. Greenspan said growth alone would not be sufficient and real spending cuts were needed. "I think one must approach the issue in terms of reducing the deficit directly and not hope that it will go away," he told the panel.

The financial markets also are worried about the deficit, which totaled \$155 billion in the 1988 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30. The deficit is expected to be more than \$145 billion this year.

Failure to reduce the deficit will put pressure on credit markets as the government competes with private businesses for money, Mr.

Greenspan said. The result would likely mean higher interest rates.

The full impact of persistently high budget deficits has yet to be felt by Americans, he said, because the U.S. economy has been growing at less than its full potential and high inflows of foreign capital have muted the impact.

"By now, however, the slack in the U.S. economy has contracted substantially. And it has become increasingly clear that reliance on foreign sources of funds is not possible or desirable over extended periods," Mr. Greenspan said.

In the short run, the Fed can hold down rates by accommodating the excess demand for money through a more expansionary monetary policy, he said.

"But this will only engender an acceleration of inflation and, ultimately, will have little, if any, effect on the allocation of real resources between the private and public sectors," he said.

Mr. Greenspan said legislators should emphasize spending cuts rather than tax increases. "We are more likely to be successful on the expenditure side than on the revenue side," he said.

In prior testimony to Congress, Mr. Greenspan recommended an increase in gasoline tax.

The Fed chairman's remarks added to the gloom in the stock and bond markets, which fell on Wednesday.

One omission member, Felix Rohatyn of Lazard Freres & Co., the investment banking firm, said foreign investors were concerned that the deficit-reduction talks might end in a deadlock.

CORUM watch advertisement featuring a large image of a watch and text: 'Designs on time', 'CORUM SUISSE', 'For a brochure write to Corum, 2301 La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.'

Financial advertisements for Leveraged Capital Holdings N.V., DP America Growth Fund, and Tokyo Pacific Holdings N.V.



BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Forstmann, Little Will Not Bid for RJR Nabisco

NEW YORK — An investment group led by Forstmann, Little & Co. has scrapped a plan to enter the high-stakes bidding for RJR Nabisco Inc. it said Wednesday, prompting a heavy sell-off in the tobacco and food company's stock.

But some analysts and arbitrageurs said they believed that Forstmann, Little had changed its plan because it was concerned about mounting political concerns about leveraged buyouts.

Most Macmillan Executives To Remain Under Maxwell

NEW YORK — Twenty-six of Macmillan Inc.'s 31 senior executives have agreed to remain with the company after its acquisition by Maxwell Communication Corp. earlier this month.

Sony Profit Surges 118%, Aided by Japanese Growth

TOKYO — Sony Corp., the consumer electronics giant, said current profit in the six months ended Sept. 30 rose 118 percent, to 31.25 billion yen (\$252.7 million), from 14.31 billion yen a year earlier, aided by strong growth in Japan and a weaker-than-expected yen.

Britain Sets Revisions of Broker Rules

LONDON — British authorities announced measures Wednesday designed to soothe the hostility of its financial services industry to the regulatory regime imposed in April.

Austria Begins Privatization Of State Electricity Concern

VIENNA — The Austrian government began an important test of its privatization program Wednesday with the announcement of details on the sale of its electricity supply company, Osterreichische Elektrizitätswirtschafts AG.

Thomson-CSF and Lucas to End Venture

PARIS — Thomson-CSF, the French electronics and armaments company, and Lucas Industries PLC, the British aerospace and car parts concern, said Wednesday that they would terminate their joint venture, begun in 1973.

Paris was about 1.3 billion francs (\$218 million), a spokesman for Thomson-CSF said. A spokesman for Lucas said in London that there would be no financial exchange between the two companies, although Lucas would assume certain assets and £20 million of borrowings of Bronzavia.

Texaco Is Selling Off More Reserves

Company Aims to Concentrate on Most Profitable Assets

By Matthew L. Wald New York Times Service HARRISON, New York — Texaco Inc. will sell 160 million barrels of oil and gas reserves, almost three times the amount it initially planned as part of a continuing program to concentrate on its most profitable assets, the company said.

held, he said, 5,000 do not meet the company's criteria for profitability. The company sold 418 properties last year. It expects to sell 1,400 this year and more than 4,500 next year.



'We have been in the business equivalent of a war.'

Exchange Rates Limit C&W to a 20% Profit Rise

LONDON — Cable & Wireless PLC, the British telecommunications company with large holdings in Asia, said Wednesday that pretax profit in the first half of its financial year rose 20 percent and that the gain was limited by currency fluctuations.

PLESSEY: Hostile Bid Launched

(Continued from first finance page) Telecommunications Holdings Ltd., or GPT. If Siemens is now able to enter the British telecommunications market, it would lessen its dependence on contracts with the West German Bundespost.

VISAS: Transfers to U.S. Tougher

(Continued from first finance page) American Immigration Lawyers' Association said, "An individual who heads the small U.S. operation of a large foreign employer may be a manager or executive, even though the U.S. operation has only three or four employees."

Quality banking at home and abroad: Helaba Frankfurt

Advertisement for Helaba Frankfurt featuring a photograph of the Frankfurt skyline and text describing its services as a government-backed universal bank.

Advertisement for Helaba Frankfurt featuring a photograph of the Frankfurt skyline and text describing its services as a government-backed universal bank.

Table with columns: AMEX Most Active, Val, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: AMEX Stock Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Shows market index data.

Advertisement for AMETEK featuring a stylized 'H2O' logo and text about drinking water filtration.





GM: Cost-Cutting and Higher Prices Bear Fruit, and New Models Are Coming

(Continued from first finance page) executives said the car's real value is the company as a demon-

A key to the surprising third-quarter results was improved cost control, said Ronald Glantz, an analyst at Montgomery Securities Inc.

Some analysts have noted that GM's third quarter benefited from a lack of heavy start-up expenses usually associated with new models.

There are also suggestions that GM packed a lot of good news in one quarter by building vehicles at a faster rate than the market can absorb.

ADVERTISING INTERNATIONAL FUNDS November 16, 1988

Table listing various international funds with columns for fund name, currency, and price. Includes categories like ALMAAL GROUP, ERIC TRUST CO LIBERTY LTD, and SWISS BANK CORP.

Chip Downturn Not Seen in Kyocera Trend

TOKYO—Kyocera Corp. said Wednesday that its net profit for financial 1988-89 would be lower than it had previously forecast.

(Japan) Ltd. "But on closer examination, I don't think this is the end."

Republic Clearing Corporation advertisement for Futures & Options on Futures, including contact information and services.

New Issue November 1988 All of these securities having been placed, this announcement appears for purposes of record only.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT advertisement for U.S. \$ 300,000,000 9 1/2 % Notes of 1988, due 1998.

CAMEL advertisement featuring a large image of a man in a suit and a pack of Camel cigarettes, with the text 'Discover the world's most satisfying cigarette.'

AS - Australian Dollars; BF - Belgium Francs; CS - Canadian Dollars; DM - Deutsch Mark; ECU - European Currency Unit; FF - French Francs; FL - Dutch Florin; Lfr - Italian Lira; Lf - Luxembourg Franc; Sfr - Swiss Franc; Y - Yen; Other Prices: N.A. - Not Available; M.C. - Not Communicated; D - Duka; S - Scented; S/S - Stock Split; E - Dividend; - - - - - E - Rate; @ - Offer Price Inc. 3% premium charge; \* - Paris stock exchange; + - Amsterdam stock exchange; e - misquoted earlier; R - not registered with regulatory authority.

# Wednesday's AMEX Closing

Tables include the national prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

Via The Associated Press

12 Month High	Low	Stg.	Div. Yld. PE	52 Week High	Low	Close	Chg.
34	34	ARM		110	110	110	
34	34	AL		110	110	110	
34	34	AM		110	110	110	
34	34	AT		110	110	110	
34	34	AV		110	110	110	
34	34	AW		110	110	110	
34	34	AX		110	110	110	
34	34	AY		110	110	110	
34	34	AZ		110	110	110	
34	34	BA		110	110	110	
34	34	BB		110	110	110	
34	34	BC		110	110	110	
34	34	BD		110	110	110	
34	34	BE		110	110	110	
34	34	BF		110	110	110	
34	34	BG		110	110	110	
34	34	BH		110	110	110	
34	34	BI		110	110	110	
34	34	BJ		110	110	110	
34	34	BK		110	110	110	
34	34	BL		110	110	110	
34	34	BM		110	110	110	
34	34	BN		110	110	110	
34	34	BO		110	110	110	
34	34	BP		110	110	110	
34	34	BQ		110	110	110	
34	34	BR		110	110	110	
34	34	BS		110	110	110	
34	34	BT		110	110	110	
34	34	BV		110	110	110	
34	34	BW		110	110	110	
34	34	BX		110	110	110	
34	34	BY		110	110	110	
34	34	BZ		110	110	110	
34	34	CA		110	110	110	
34	34	CB		110	110	110	
34	34	CC		110	110	110	
34	34	CD		110	110	110	
34	34	CE		110	110	110	
34	34	CF		110	110	110	
34	34	CG		110	110	110	
34	34	CH		110	110	110	
34	34	CI		110	110	110	
34	34	CJ		110	110	110	
34	34	CK		110	110	110	
34	34	CL		110	110	110	
34	34	CM		110	110	110	
34	34	CN		110	110	110	
34	34	CO		110	110	110	
34	34	CP		110	110	110	
34	34	CQ		110	110	110	
34	34	CR		110	110	110	
34	34	CS		110	110	110	
34	34	CT		110	110	110	
34	34	CU		110	110	110	
34	34	CV		110	110	110	
34	34	CW		110	110	110	
34	34	CX		110	110	110	
34	34	CY		110	110	110	
34	34	CZ		110	110	110	
34	34	DA		110	110	110	
34	34	DB		110	110	110	
34	34	DC		110	110	110	
34	34	DD		110	110	110	
34	34	DE		110	110	110	
34	34	DF		110	110	110	
34	34	DG		110	110	110	
34	34	DH		110	110	110	
34	34	DI		110	110	110	
34	34	DJ		110	110	110	
34	34	DK		110	110	110	
34	34	DL		110	110	110	
34	34	DM		110	110	110	
34	34	DN		110	110	110	
34	34	DO		110	110	110	
34	34	DP		110	110	110	
34	34	DQ		110	110	110	
34	34	DR		110	110	110	
34	34	DS		110	110	110	
34	34	DT		110	110	110	
34	34	DU		110	110	110	
34	34	DV		110	110	110	
34	34	DW		110	110	110	
34	34	DX		110	110	110	
34	34	DY		110	110	110	
34	34	DZ		110	110	110	
34	34	EA		110	110	110	
34	34	EB		110	110	110	
34	34	EC		110	110	110	
34	34	ED		110	110	110	
34	34	EE		110	110	110	
34	34	EF		110	110	110	
34	34	EG		110	110	110	
34	34	EH		110	110	110	
34	34	EI		110	110	110	
34	34	EJ		110	110	110	
34	34	EK		110	110	110	
34	34	EL		110	110	110	
34	34	EM		110	110	110	
34	34	EN		110	110	110	
34	34	EO		110	110	110	
34	34	EP		110	110	110	
34	34	EQ		110	110	110	
34	34	ER		110	110	110	
34	34	ES		110	110	110	
34	34	ET		110	110	110	
34	34	EU		110	110	110	
34	34	EV		110	110	110	
34	34	EW		110	110	110	
34	34	EX		110	110	110	
34	34	EY		110	110	110	
34	34	EZ		110	110	110	
34	34	FA		110	110	110	
34	34	FB		110	110	110	
34	34	FC		110	110	110	
34	34	FD		110	110	110	
34	34	FE		110	110	110	
34	34	FF		110	110	110	
34	34	FG		110	110	110	
34	34	FH		110	110	110	
34	34	FI		110	110	110	
34	34	FJ		110	110	110	
34	34	FK		110	110	110	
34	34	FL		110	110	110	
34	34	FM		110	110	110	
34	34	FN		110	110	110	
34	34	FO		110	110	110	
34	34	FP		110	110	110	
34	34	FQ		110	110	110	
34	34	FR		110	110	110	
34	34	FS		110	110	110	
34	34	FT		110	110	110	
34	34	FU		110	110	110	
34	34	FV		110	110	110	
34	34	FW		110	110	110	
34	34	FX		110	110	110	
34	34	FY		110	110	110	
34	34	FZ		110	110	110	
34	34	GA		110	110	110	
34	34	GB		110	110	110	
34	34	GC		110	110	110	
34	34	GD		110	110	110	
34	34	GE		110	110	110	
34	34	GF		110	110	110	
34	34	GG		110	110	110	
34	34	GH		110	110	110	
34	34	GI		110	110	110	
34	34	GJ		110	110	110	
34	34	GK		110	110	110	
34	34	GL		110	110	110	
34	34	GM		110	110	110	
34	34	GN		110	110	110	
34	34	GO		110	110	110	
34	34	GP		110	110	110	
34	34	GQ		110	110	110	
34	34	GR		110	110	110	
34	34	GS		110	110	110	
34	34	GT		110	110	110	
34	34	GU		110	110	110	
34	34	GV		110	110	110	
34	34	GW		110	110	110	
34	34	GX		110	110	110	
34	34	GY		110	110	110	
34	34	GZ		110	110	110	
34	34	HA		110	110	110	
34	34	HB		110	110	110	
34	34	HC		110	110	110	
34	34	HD		110	110	110	
34	34	HE		110	110	110	
34	34	HF		110	110	110	
34	34	HG		110	110	110	
34	34	HH		110	110	110	
34	34	HI		110	110	110	
34	34	HJ		110	110	110	
34	34	HK		110	110	110	
34	34	HL		110	110	110	
34	34	HM		110	110	110	
34	34	HN		110	110	110	
34	34	HO		110	110	110	
34	34	HP		110	110	110	
34	34	HQ		110	110	110	
34	34	HR		110	110	110	
34	34	HS		110	110	110	
34	34	HT		110	110	110	
34	34	HU		110	110	110	
34	34	HV		110	110	110	
34	34	HW		110	110	110	
34	34	HX		110	110	110	
34	34	HY		110	110	110	
34	34	HZ		110	110	110	
34	34	IA		110	110	110	
34	34	IB		110	110	110	
34	34	IC		110	110	110	
34	34	ID		110	110	110	
34	34	IE		110	110	110	
34	34	IF		110	110	110	
34	34	IG		110	110	110	
34	34	IH		110	110	110	
34	34	II		110	110	110	
34	34	IJ		110	110	110	
34	34	IK		110	110	110	
34	34	IL		110	110	110	
34	34	IM		110	110	110	
34	34	IN		110	110	110	
34	34	IO		110	110	110	
34	34	IP		110	110	110	
34	34	IQ		110	110	110	
34	34	IR		110	110	110	
34	34	IS		110	110	110	
34	34	IT		110	110	110	
34	34	IU		110	110	110	
34							

CURRENCY MARKETS

Dollar Plummets Despite Improved Trade Data

NEW YORK — The dollar took a pounding Wednesday, dropping more than three pence and one yen, despite the U.S. government report that the merchandise trade deficit had narrowed in September.

London Dollar Rates table with columns for Country, Bid, and Offer rates for various currencies like Deutsche mark, Pound sterling, etc.

The dollar closed at 1.717 DM, down from 1.728 DM on Tuesday, and at 122.25 yen, down from 123.25 yen. It also sank to 1.4415 Swiss francs, down from 1.462, and to 5.867 French francs, off from 5.952.

The slide in the dollar encouraged market speculation the Fed may act to raise the U.S. discount rate, now at 6.5 percent, economists said.

which allowed the dollar to drift lower without interruption. Dealers saw another excuse to sell the dollar in remarks by the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, to the National Economic Commission that the need to cut the budget deficit was pressing.

Mr. Greenspan said U.S. reliance on foreign investors to fund the budget deficit is neither possible nor desirable over time.

cellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany, Japanese officials and others have made great efforts in the past few days to assure the markets the dollar does not need a further decline.

The market is extremely concerned about the deficit, said Frank Watson, a dealer with Swiss Bank Corp. "The administration has not given us a plan on how they are going to handle the deficit and that makes dealers nervous."

Trade Gap Rise In Australia Hurts Markets

SYDNEY — Australia reported on Wednesday its weakest monthly current-account figures in two years, and the Australian dollar and stock prices fell in reaction.

The current account, which measures trade in merchandise and services, was in deficit by 1.69 billion dollars (\$1.43 billion) in October, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The deficit in September was 974 million dollars. It had hit 1.7 billion in October 1986.

Debate Over the Dollar Rages On

Views Differ About the Proper Level of the U.S. Currency

By Jonathan Fuerbringer New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The sharp decline of the dollar last week and the efforts by President-elect George Bush to stabilize the currency this week are the latest rounds in a long-running debate about the proper level of the dollar.

only of "exchange market stability," which does not necessarily mean that the administration wants to keep the dollar at its present level.

Rather, it means that he wants to avoid a sharp, fast drop in the dollar that could create uncertainty, spilling over into the stock and bond markets and shaking investor confidence in the U.S. economy.

Some economists said that if the dollar continued to decline without action by the White House and Congress to reduce the federal trade deficit, the economy would be harmed.

"There is a dream scenario," said Rudiger Dornbusch, a professor of economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, referring to a decline in the dollar coupled with a drop in the budget deficit. "But if the fiscal adjustment does not come, the dream scenario turns into a nightmare. It becomes inflation."

"If the fiscal adjustment does not come, the dream scenario turns into a nightmare. It becomes inflation."

Some economists have said the dollar must decline substantially. Martin S. Feldstein, a former chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers under Mr. Bush during the presidential campaign, has said the dollar must fall as much as 20 percent over the next several years or the trade deficit will not narrow.

He repeated the position Wednesday. "I've been saying that and I'm more than happy to say it again," said Mr. Feldstein, who has been criticized by government officials for last week advocating a fall in the dollar to about 100 yen.

"I am not saying that any action should be taken to bring the dollar down," he said Wednesday, "but that the market is going to drive it down."

One of the main reasons Mr. Feldstein called for such a steep decline was that he said expected inflation to be higher in the United States over the next few years than in Western Europe or Japan. Thus, he wants the dollar to drop to offset the increased prices of American goods caused by inflation.

Some economists say they did not believe that the dollar needed to decline at all. Mr. Rahn is betting that inflation in the United States will be lower over the next several years than in Europe and Japan.

"If you have an economy growing at a good rate with inflation at low levels, these problems are largely self-correcting," he said, referring to the trade deficit.

TRADE: Markets Jittery Despite Narrow Trade Gap

(Continued from page 1) The Dow Jones industrial average said 38.59 points to close at 1,058.58. In New York, the dollar sank to 1.7170 Deutsche marks from 1.7428 DM, and to 122.25 yen from 123.25 yen. (Pages 12 and 19)

The dollar has dropped by about 8 percent against the yen and 6 percent against the mark over the past month, its falling worth reduces the value of dollar-denominated securities, such as U.S. stocks and bonds.

Lawrence Chimerine, chairman of the WFEA Group, a Pennsylvania forecasting concern, predicted that the dollar will be far lower a year from now.

Mr. Bush, however, has moved quickly in the transition period before his inauguration to try to stabilize world currency and stock markets. On Wednesday, he announced that Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady, a close friend and previously a well-known Wall Street investment banker, would remain in his post.

Mr. Roach said foreign investors met with Wednesday were not impressed with the decline in the trade deficit.

He said the high import figure indicated to them that U.S. domestic demand is still too great, and they are concerned that Mr. Bush is "reluctant" to raise taxes to cut the budget deficit.

"Foreign investors are sending a pretty clear message," said Mr. Roach. "They want more taxes and a slower demand in the economy."

The investors prefer slower growth and gradually falling interest rates "as the lesser of two evils." The other option would be a steep drop in the value of the dollar and sharply higher interest rates, "which means a major recession," he said.

Mr. Chimerine said the good news was the slowdown in the growth of imports and figures that show a drop in market penetration of foreign goods in the auto, clothing and apparel sectors. But he noted

Where the U.S. Deficit Comes From

Table showing U.S. merchandise trade deficit in millions of dollars for selected countries: Canada, European Community, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, OPEC nations.

Nothing has changed because of the trade data, "but there is the feeling the Fed may put up interest rates," said Christopher Johns, a currency analyst at UBS/Phillips & Drew.

Wednesday's OTC Prices advertisement with logo and text: "NASDAQ prices of 4 p.m. New York area. This list, compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities of that volume. It is updated twice a year. Via The Associated Press."

Large table of OTC prices for various stocks, including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'A' through 'C', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'D' through 'G', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'H' through 'K', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'L' through 'N', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'O' through 'R', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'S' through 'V', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Table of stock prices for companies starting with 'W' through 'Z', including columns for 12 Month High, Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, 4 P.M. CHG.

Wednesday's AMEX Closing advertisement with logo and text: "Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere." (Continued)

BOOKS

ON BENDED KNEE:

The Press and the Reagan Presidency

By Mark Hertsgaard. 408 pages. \$22.50. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 19 Union Square West, New York, N. Y. 10003.

Reviewed by Molly Ivins

THIS book became nearly more apposite as the sorry 1988 presidential campaign wound up, or down. Mark Hertsgaard's conclusion is that for eight years now the Oval Office has been occupied by a public relations firm, and that the media response has been, for a variety of reasons, gutless, complacent, sycophantic or inept. You could probably get half the White House press corps to vote any on that proposition, but the more interesting part of Hertsgaard's book is not the troubled witness given by conscientious journalists — it's the testimony from Michael Deaver, David Gergen, Richard Darman and Jim Baker, the men who did the manipulating. To read how they did it is chilling — because they're still doing it.

It sounds so simple: (1) plan ahead; (2) stay on the offensive; (3) control the flow of information; (4) limit reporters' access to the president; (5) talk about the issues you want to talk about; (6) speak in one voice; (7) repeat the same message many times. You recognize, of course, George Bush's entire campaign. Ronald Reagan was once asked whether he found being president difficult, and he said no; it was in fact much like his life prior to being president. As one White House aide said, "He's an actor. He's used to being produced and directed. He stands where he is supposed to and delivers his lines, he reads beautifully, he knows how to wait for the applause line." He is accustomed to taking other people's directions, to speaking other people's words.

If the politicians are the actors and we, the people, are no longer citizens with an active role, but merely the audience, who are the producers and directors? And is it the intention of the U.S. Constitution that producers, directors and scriptwriters should be running the country? Michael Deaver's dictum is "Television elects presidents," and at this point it hardly seems worth arguing. But that the show business and advertising values of television should have so infected the political process (a world in which sleaze and tackiness were not previously unknown) is making a dramatically observable difference in the national life.

There was a time when the purpose of journalism was to report the news, honestly and fairly. The problem for the networks, as it has always been for competitive newspapers, is that sleaze sells. It gets better ratings. Hertsgaard writes, "The media mogul Van Gordon Sauter most closely resembled — indeed, was the television equivalent of — Rupert Murdoch, the Australian reactionary who had made millions by publishing alarmingly low-minded newspapers on three continents. . . . It was not the pursuit of circulation per se that distinguished Sauter and Murdoch from their peers, for that was the name of the game in American journalism. But because audience was their first, last and overriding concern, flaws common to most conventional American journalism — a preference for the superficial over the comprehensive, a mindless and often belittling nationalism masquerading as patriotism, a reinforcement rather than a challenging of conventional wisdom and common prejudice, a relentless focus on today and history being damned — were magnified to grotesque proportions in their news production."

Everyone knows the press can dish it out, but it sure can't take it. The usual tired litany of excuses is here: "We told the story but the people didn't want to hear it." "We're being attacked by both sides, so we must be doing something right." "Terlon President." If the president of the United States for the last eight years has been, in the words of former defense secretary Clark Clifford, "an amiable dunce," what does it say about the performance of the press that he's leaving office with one of the highest popularity ratings anyone can remember?

Hertsgaard writes, "Because news accounts generally failed to make clear the real-world implications of Reagan's inability or unwillingness to distinguish fact from fiction, they often ended up trivializing or personalizing it." The political scientist James David Barber classically observed, "Ronald Reagan is the first modern president whose contempt for the facts is treated as a charming idiosyncrasy." The journalist Jane Mayer, observing the mangled bodies of 241 dead Marines in Beirut, said, "You can't see something like that without realizing there are actual repercussions when there is chaos in Washington." It seems incredible that anyone who remembers Vietnam can forget the consequences of ignorance in office. But then, as Hertsgaard so compellingly points out, the American press is historical to an extent that makes last week medieval.

Molly Ivins covers politics for the Dallas Times Herald. She wrote this for The Washington Post.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

IN the World Team Olympiad, which ended in Venice on Oct. 22, the Indian team of Rajesh Delal, Santana Ghose, Avinash Gokhale, Kamal Mukherjee, Debasis Roy and Jaggy Shivdasani achieved the best performance ever by an Asian team. The team lost in the semifinal to the Americans, who eventually captured the title, but gained on the diagramed deal. The bidding needs some explanation.

held the major suits, but South tried three no-trump. West led the diamond queen, and the South player, Jaggy Shivdasani, knew that West held the major suits. He won with the ace and cashed his five club winners, on which West gave up two hearts. Now South crossed to the diamond king and led a heart to the ten. This forced the king, and West had to give the declarer a ninth trick by leading one of the major suits. In the replay, South had no cue to the opposing distribution after he opened two no-trump and was raised to game. Ghose as West made the winning decision by leading a heart rather than a spade, and South won the queen with the ace. Not unreasonably, he tried for

his ninth trick by leading to the diamond king and playing a spade to the king. But West produced the ace, and the result was down one.

Bridge diagram showing a hand with cards: Spades (A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, A), Hearts (A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, A), Diamonds (A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, A), Clubs (A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, A). Includes text: NORTH ♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A. SOUTH ♠ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A ♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 A.

World Stock Markets

Via Agence France Presse Closing prices in local currencies, Nov. 16

Table of stock market data for Amsterdam, London, and Paris. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for Tokyo, Seoul, and Osaka. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for Hong Kong, Singapore, and Manila. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for Zurich, Frankfurt, and Amsterdam. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver. Columns include stock names and prices.

Table of stock market data for various international indices and currencies. Columns include index names and values.

Market Closed

The stock markets in Frankfurt and Sao Paulo were closed Tuesday for a holiday.

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JAPAN

will be featured in a special news report, prepared by the editors of the International Herald Tribune. It will appear on Monday Dec. 5. Don't miss this important issue.

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Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Weather forecast for Europe, Asia, North America, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania.

Dennis the Menace comic strip panels.

Jumble word game with a cartoon illustration.

Down crossword puzzle clues.

Peanuts comic strip panels.

Andy Capp comic strip panels.

Wizard of Id comic strip panels.

Beetle Bailey comic strip panels.

Blondie comic strip panels.

Rex Morgan comic strip panels.

Garfield comic strip panels.

Doonesbury comic strip panels.

Garfield comic strip panels.

Garfield comic strip panels.

Doonesbury comic strip panels.

Garfield comic strip panels.

Garfield comic strip panels.

سكزامن الاصل

SPORTS

Leonard Relinquishes Both WBC Boxing Titles

NEW YORK — Sugar Ray Leonard, who won the World Boxing Council light heavyweight and WBC supermiddleweight titles when he knocked out Donny Laonde on Nov. 7, has given up both titles.

WBC rules would not allow Leonard to hold both titles. Laonde had been the light heavyweight (175-pound) champion, and the WBC also allowed the two men to fight for the vacant supermiddleweight (168-pound) title.

The announcement of Leonard's decision came Tuesday from Steve Crosson, a WBC official, who said Laonde would probably be given the opportunity to fight for whichever of Leonard's abandoned titles he wants.

The 32-year-old Leonard wrote to Steve Crosson, president of the WBC, on Monday, saying: "Since I don't know my present plans concerning the continuation of my boxing career, I have decided to give up both titles."

"It would be unfair to those highly ranked fighters in either weight division to have to wait for the opportunity to become a WBC champion."

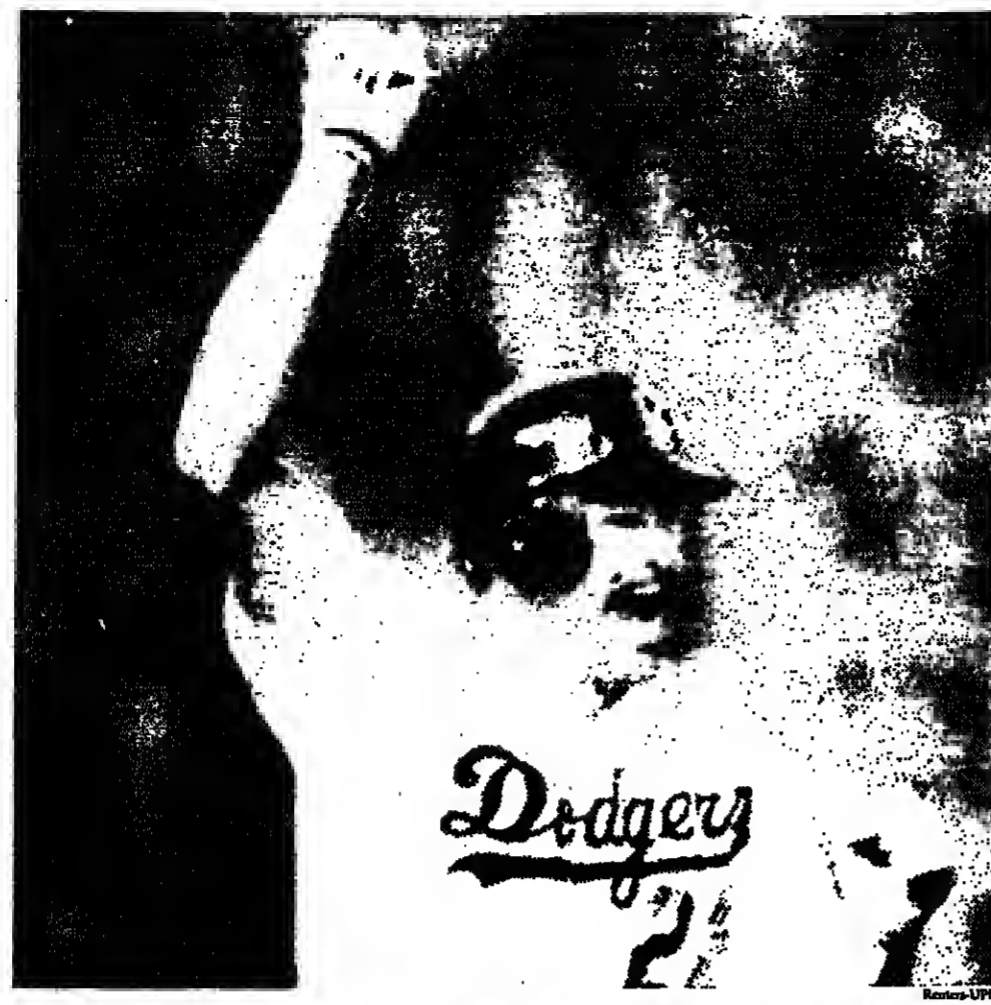
Leonard is the only man to win at least a piece of five world titles. He has come out of retirement three times.

Laonde said Tuesday that he would like a rematch with Leonard. But if he could not have one, Laonde said, he would seek to regain the WBC light heavyweight title, figuring Leonard would relinquish that one in favor of keeping the supermiddleweight title.

There has been speculation that if Leonard chooses to fight again, it might be against Thomas Hearns, the World Boxing Organization's first champion, in the supermiddleweight division.

A few days before Leonard beat Laonde convincingly, Hearns struggled to win a decision over James Kinchen for the WBO title. Hearns was in deep trouble after Kinchen knocked him down early in the match.

The consensus of boxing observers afterward was that Hearns is a fighter who now shows the wear of his boxing career and that Leonard would probably have an easy time against him. (NYT, AP)



Kirk Gibson after the ninth-inning homer that won Game 1 of the World Series for the Dodgers.

Gibson Is Named National League MVP

By Joseph Durso New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a sharply contested election, Kirk Gibson of the Los Angeles Dodgers has been named the Most Valuable Player in the National League over Darryl Strawberry of the New York Mets.

It was an election that was considered wide open with perhaps four or five candidates in the running. But when the results were announced Tuesday, Gibson achieved a smashing victory as the left fielder who powered the underdog Dodgers to the top in the West. He received 13 votes for first place, 9 for second, 8 for third and 0 down the line, he got 272 points.

place on the 24 ballots, cast by two senior baseball writers for each city in the league immediately after the regular season. He got six votes for second place, two for third, two for fourth and one for fifth. On a point system that awards 14 for first place, 9 for second, 8 for third and 0 down the line, he got 272 points.

Strawberry, the right fielder who helped power the Mets to the top in the East, received seven votes for first place, nine for second, three for third, three for fourth and two for fifth. He got 236 points. Kevin McReynolds, the left fielder on the Mets and their steady performer this year, got the four other votes for first place and 162 points. Andy Van Slyke of the Pittsburgh Pirates was fourth with 160 points.

VANTAGE POINT/George Vecsey

Don't Mess With the Big Fella

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — It's not every player who storms off the field before his first exhibition with his new team. But that's how Kirk Gibson opened his career with the Dodgers, and it is a major reason he deserved the National League's Most Valuable Player award.

Somebody put eye-black in Gibson's helmet before his first exhibition in Vero Beach, Florida, a dopey little initiation stunt. The new man felt the gunk on his thinning hair, saw the traces of it on his all-America-receiver fingers. And he went loudly nuts. He bolted away from the field and said that he wasn't playing with a bunch of clowns and that he now understood why the Dodgers had been 73-89 the previous two seasons.

As it turned out, the prankster had been Jesse Orosco, also a new man in town, but Gibson had made his point, even if he had to pay a fine for walking out.

"I can't say I'm glad it happened," Gibson said later. "I don't think it hurt. I think it was positive over the long run. It was good to defuse the bomb right away, so to speak."

The bomb may have been defused, but it still perched on Gibson's shoulder, visible to teammates and opponents alike.

The Dodgers saw his glare, and they saw his whiskers permanently moved at seven-day depth, and they saw his football-player physique, and they decided not to make the big fella mad.

They won the division, and the halloos for Most Valuable Player were cast, and later Gibson hit a homer to win the fourth game of the League Championship Series and the Dodgers won the pennant.

Six days later, Gibson hobnobbed off the trainer's table to hit one of the most dramatic home runs in World Series history to win the first game, his only appearance in the Series, and then he turned the Series over to Orel Hershiser.

Hershiser was probably just as valuable to the Dodgers by winning 23 games and reeling off 59 straight scoreless innings at the end of the season, but voters placed him sixth, with no first-place ballots.

Gibson was more valuable in the Dodgers than any other everyday player was to his team in 1988, including Darryl Strawberry and Kevin McReynolds of the Mets, who finished second and third in the voting.

Some years the most valuable player in the league is the most productive in the league. In 1987, Andre Dawson of the Cubs had such overwhelming figures he could not be ignored, even though Jack Clark helped the Cardinals win their division and Will Clark helped the Giants win theirs and the Cubs finished last.

This year there was no Dawson. Strawberry hit 39 homers and drove in 101 runs and batted .269. McReynolds had 27 homers, drove in 99 runs and batted .288.

And Gibson had 25 homers, drove in 76 runs on a less explosive club and batted .290. But he was more valuable than the others because of his gruff example.

Strawberry became the most important Met in 1988. It takes little from McReynolds's accomplishment to note that opposing managers spent much of last season taking their chances pitching to McReynolds rather than Strawberry.

At the age of 26, Strawberry is still not as good as his critics think he should be, but he is a much better ballplayer than when he was showing up late or indisposed for some day games.

He had one horrendous batting slump this year, and his fielding deteriorated at the same time. And he got himself in trouble with comments about teammates last winter or musing about wanting to finish his career in Los Angeles.

Although some Mets still have reason to wonder where Strawberry's head is, day by day, he is maturing in many ways. The best indication is the gracious way he accepted finishing second to Gibson Tuesday, saying that Gibson "meant a lot to the Dodgers" and

He went to Vero Beach eager to prove he was worth the \$2.5 million for 1988, and he did not tolerate pranks. His walkout set the tone for the Dodgers' season — and so did playing in 150 games and stealing 31 bases.

His heroics in the postseason only made his supporters look more logical — or more psychic, as the case may be.

Mostly, it was an election that gave the Dodgers one more dash of success after a season of remarkable success. They won the Western Division after finishing fourth the year before. They won the pennant by upsetting the Mets in seven games in the playoff. They won the World Series by upsetting the Oakland Athletics in five games.

Then they began to reap the awards: Tommy Lasorda was named manager of the year, Orel Hershiser unanimously won the Cy Young Award and Gibson completed the sweep by being named most valuable.

It was also one more personal coup for Gibson, the onetime wide receiver from Michigan State who became a World Series star with the Detroit Tigers in 1984 before being granted a second chance as a free agent last winter and signing with the Dodgers. He did not post spectacular statistics in his first season in Los Angeles but provided home-run power and the tough attitude that the Dodgers generally lacked.

"I'm not a numbers person," Gibson said from his home in Michigan. "I never set goals to hit this number or get so many RBIs. The intangibles obviously were taken into consideration and that makes me feel good."

The Most Valuable Player in the American League will be announced Wednesday night. A landslide victory is expected for Jose Canseco of the Oakland Athletics.

Kentucky Athletic Director Resigns

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Kentucky — Cliff Hagan has become the first casualty of the NCAA investigation of Kentucky's basketball program, tendering his resignation as athletic director less than a week after saying he was being used as a scapegoat in the probe.

The university attorney, Joseph Burch, was named acting athletic director, a UK spokesman said.

Neither Hagan, who had held the position for 13 years, nor the university president, David Roselle, were present at the news conference on Tuesday.

At a news conference Wednesday, Burch said he would be an aggressive administrator and "spokesman for the athletic program. I will not be a lame duck."

When reports surfaced last week that Roselle was unhappy with his performance during the investigation, Hagan said, "If someone wants to use the athletics director as a scapegoat, that's fine."

The National Collegiate Athletic Association has criticized the university's control and monitoring of the basketball program, which faces 18 allegations of wrongdoing.

"It is unfortunate that circumstances sometimes create a need for change that is regretful for all," Roselle said in a prepared statement. "In this case, the circumstances dictate the need for a different management style and philosophy."

Berneis Vonderheide, a university spokesman, said it had been Hagan's decision to resign.

The school announced that a screening committee would be appointed soon to conduct the search for a new athletics director.

Hagan, a native of Owensboro, was a two-time All-American basketball player at Kentucky, playing for Adolph Rupp's national championship team in 1951 and undefeated squad in 1954.

He played 10 seasons for the St. Louis Hawks in the National Basketball Association, including a world championship team in 1958.

He was named All-Pro from 1957 to the Dallas Cowboys after the American Basketball Association before becoming assistant athletic director at UK in 1972.

Jerry Claiborne, the head football coach, and Eddie Sutton, the head basketball coach, issued statements in support of Hagan.

"Cliff Hagan has always been very supportive of our football program as long as I've been here," Claiborne said. "I'm very sorry to hear of Cliff's resignation. He devoted most of his life to University of Kentucky athletics."

"Cliff Hagan has been a great friend to the University of Kentucky and to me personally," Sutton said. "I am saddened by his resignation, but I am happy that he will remain with the university."

Vonderheide also announced that the "overall responsibility and accountability for the athletics program" had been delegated by Roselle to Ed Carter, vice president for administration.

The school announced that a screening committee would be appointed soon to conduct the search for a new athletics director.

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division, Central Division, Western Conference, Midwest Division, Pacific Division, and Tuesday's Results.

HOCKEY

Table with columns for Wales Conference, Patrick Division, Adams Division, and Tuesday's Results.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for American Football Conference, National Football League Leaders, and Tuesday's Results.

TRANSITION

Table with columns for Baseball, American League, National League, and Soccer.

SIDELINES

Turner to Broadcast 1990 World Cup

NEW YORK (AP) — Ted Turner's newest cable network has purchased the U.S. television rights to the 1990 World Cup Soccer tournament to be held in Italy.

Turner Network Television and FIFA, the world soccer body, announced Tuesday that TNT has acquired U.S. rights to the competition. The terms were not disclosed. The network said it would carry "a major portion" of the 52 matches.

The 1990 World Cup final between Italy and Argentina in Mexico City was seen by more than 65 million viewers in 166 countries. NBC handled the U.S. broadcast and paid \$5.5 million to show seven games from the tournament.

NBA Fines Parish, Laimbeer, Mahorn

NEW YORK (AP) — Robert Parish of Boston was fined \$1,500 and Bill Laimbeer of Detroit was fined \$1,000 for an incident during a game last week, the National Basketball Association has announced.

Parish and Laimbeer were fined Tuesday for an altercation during Friday night's Celtics-Pistons game at Boston. Parish was assessed the larger fine for throwing a punch, Rod Thorn, the NBA's vice president for operations, said.

For the Record

Lawyers for the San Diego Yacht Club filed a brief in New York Supreme Court Tuesday to counter arguments by New Zealand that the club should be disqualified as the winner of the America's Cup in September.

Snow has begun falling at Val Thorens, France, but officials said Wednesday that the opening of the World Cup ski season next week is still in doubt.

British athletes who use anabolic steroids would risk going to prison for two years under new government proposals. Unauthorized importers, producers and suppliers of the drug would face heavier penalties. (AFP)

Soviets Defeat Ohio State

Perry Carter (32) of Ohio State University muscling between Alexander Volkov and Arvidas Sabonis (11) of the Soviet national team at an exhibition game in Columbus, Ohio. The Soviet team, which had won the gold medal at Olympic Games in Seoul, defeated the Buckeyes, 82-76, Tuesday night. Ohio State is returning four starters from its 20-13 team last year.



Perry Carter (32) of Ohio State University muscling between Alexander Volkov and Arvidas Sabonis (11) of the Soviet national team at an exhibition game in Columbus, Ohio. The Soviet team, which had won the gold medal at Olympic Games in Seoul, defeated the Buckeyes, 82-76, Tuesday night. Ohio State is returning four starters from its 20-13 team last year.

ESORTS & GUIDES

Table listing various travel agencies and services under the heading 'ESORTS & GUIDES', including International Escort Service, London Escort Agency, Kensington Escort Service, etc.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

Table listing various classified services under the heading 'INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED', including Escort Services, Travel Agencies, and other international services.

# ART BUCHWALD

## Buyouts and Junk Buns

WASHINGTON — There is a tremendous amount of deal-making going on in the United States nowadays.

Just recently, the management of RJR Nabisco offered to buy out its stockholders for \$17 billion. Another company, Kohlberg Kravis, upped the bid to \$20 billion — and so it goes. There seems to be no end to the spinoffs and leveraged buyouts being made on Wall Street.

Many of the firms being taken over or offered for sale are in the food business.

So it came as no surprise to me when Al Lentz, president of United Bread Pudding, said to me, "I'm making a firm bid for American Cholesterol."

"What's the deal?" I asked him. "In exchange for United Junk Buns, I'm offering the stockholders 10 billion jelly doughnuts."

"That seems reasonable," I replied. "Is United Bread Pudding worth 10 billion jelly doughnuts?"

"It is if I sell off American's Chicken Fat business, as well as its Computer Virus division. My offer is contingent on spinning off United's Paper Flower factories, and dumping our Hamburger Helper plants on the Japanese."

"I don't understand why the owners of American Cholesterol would want to see the firm broken up."

"It's for the good of the stock-

holders. The book value of American is three jelly doughnuts per cup of coffee. We're offering six doughnuts, which is much better than if they took their dividends in Oreo cookies."

"Suppose someone comes along and makes a bid to buy American for one billion animal crackers?"

"I'll top their price with two billion loaves of Wonder Bread. I'll fight any unfriendly takeover of my unfriendly takeover. I was the first one who saw the value of breaking up American Cholesterol, and Nabisco better keep his cotton-picking hands off it or I'll crush every Ritz Cracker they own."

"What attracted you to American since you seem to be selling off most of it?"

"They're the biggest chewing tobacco manufacturers in the world. I figure any food company that knows how to merchandise chewing tobacco has a profit potential."

"What happens if the stockholders and management reject your offer?"

"Then they have to pay me to get me out of the deal. I won't settle for less than four billion turkey drumsticks, plus a seat on the board of Eastern Airlines."

"What will you do with the jelly doughnuts?"

"I'm no fool. I intend to exchange them for some blue-chips like Tofu Pizzas. I can't lose on this because there are a lot of pension funds that would do anything to have all of their capital in Tofu."

"American Cholesterol was a giant in the industry. Now since you are spinning everything off, will you still make a product?"

"The first thing to do when you buy out another firm is to cut costs. I intend to do that with a vengeance."

"If you can't produce anything, where are you going to get the shredded wheat to pay off your debts?"

"Once we control American, we hope to have enough leverage to take over Dibble's Sour Cream with the cash we made on Mother Shapiro's Homemade Linguini."

"Is there really a good chance you can put this all together?" I asked in admiration.

"There is no doubt in my mind. All I have to do is get the bank to O.K. my credit card so that I can buy a shuttle ticket to Boston."

# Mel Tormé Sees Life Through The Velvet Fog

By Richard Harrington  
Washington Post Service

THE film that opened the most recent New York film festival started Daffy Duck. Really. In "Night of the Living Duck," Daffy dreams that he is going to sing in a nightclub for all the famous monsters of the world.

"He peeps out of the curtains," recounts one of the featured performers, "and there's Frankenstein and his Bride at one table, Dracula and a couple of vampire girls at another, the Cyclops and the Fly. It is a tough audience. Daffy tries to vocalize and nothing comes out, so he walks over to the dressing room table, picks up an atomizer marked 'Eau de Tormé,' squirts himself in the throat and then suddenly when he starts singing, it is my voice."

The real Mel Tormé breaks into a little warm-up vocal exercise, then slides into trademark act. "And it's full animation, so you see his bill doing all this stuff."

Tormé says, trying to purse his lips into duck bills. "It's so goddamn cute. Audiences love it."

"If 'Night of the Living Duck' is a tale of two Mels — Blanc (the speaking voice of Daffy) and Tormé — the recently published 'It Wasn't All Velvet' is the story of just one, Melvin Howard Tormé. Now 63, he is into a career that began 59 years ago at Chicago's Blackhawk Cafe when he boldly asked to sit in with the Coon-Sanders Orchestra. The precocious 4-year-old sang 'You're Driving Me Crazy' and subsequently joined the band every Monday for six months and pulled down \$15 a night. The bad news was he had to start kindergarten the next year.

That has been the pattern for Tormé — good news, bad news, ups and downs. "That's why I titled the book the way I did," he says. "A lot of it was supervelvet, and a lot of it wasn't." But these are the good news days. At an age when many singers struggle with their craft, Tormé's control, pitch

and diction remain virtually perfect. His voice is still pliant, his phrasing imaginative, his repertoire deep and sparkling.

What is more, he is booked into 1990. "The irony is being able to look at 1988 and say it's the best year I have ever had in my life," says Tormé. "Which I'm damn grateful for. Somebody asked me if I'd rather have had this year when I was 40 and in a downswing instead of an upswing."

He is known as The Velvet Fog. The term came out of the deejay patter in the mid-'40s. It seemed to best suggest the effortless baritone and sweet, mellifluous consistency of Tormé's singing. Before long, though, it became an albatross.

"About 1970," he says, "I actually turned around and put a clause in my contracts: 'Under no condition are you to say Velvet Fog.' But then critics would write things like 'The Fog has lifted' and the Fog rolls into town."

I used to get abusive, but now I've done something of a 180 on it. I've had people slap me smartly on the wrist, saying 'We grew up with that, we loved the way you sang in those days as well as now, so why be churlish about it?'"

In 1920s Chicago, it was enough for Tormé to be childish. By the time he got into radio "at age 9 in 1934," he says, "there was no doubt in my mind that that's what I wanted to pursue. It may seem like I was very young, but that decision, because my friends were still saying 'I don't know whether I want to be a fireman or a baseball player or a race driver,' but I was absolutely firm about what I was going to do."

In high school, Tormé added the accent to the family name. His stock went up when band leader Harry James had a hit with "Lament for Love," a Tormé song about a hopeless infatuation. At 15, he would have gone on the road with the James band had not child labor laws forced him to



— Ben Galloway/The New York Times

"A lot of it was supervelvet, and a lot of it wasn't," he says.

stay in school; still, he was dubbed "America's Youngest Hit Songwriter."

Tormé moved to California in 1942. Though still a teen-ager, Tormé organized the Revellies, named after a character in the Marx Brothers films, wrote for it and did occasional drumming. He went before the cameras, first in "Higher and Higher" with Frank Sinatra, and then in a succession of forgettable films. Tormé also had a brief shining moment in the Rodgers and Hart biography film "Words and Music," in which his rendition of "Blue Moon" generated a hit.

By this time, Tormé's career was solidifying. It was the era of the vocal groups — the Pied Pipers, Modernaires, Six Hits and a Miss, the Town Criers and, of course, the Mel-Tones. "I'd just gotten my feet wet with the Revellies and I just loved writing for them," he says. "You see, I regard my whole career as a work in

progress — to this day it's a learning curve — and at the time it was learning how to write for a vocal group." Which he did until the Mel-Tones broke up in 1946, at least partly because Tormé was ready to fly solo. "I wanted to get out there and try my wings."

He happened well enough to generate his own fan clubs and to establish himself as a nightclub attraction. On the side, he was writing some of his 300 original tunes. Tormé and co-writer Bob Wells had written these songs for the films "Abe's Irish Rose" and "Magic Town," and there are other decent Tormé credits ("Born to Be Blue," "Stranger in Town," "State Fair"). Still, there is a song that ensures all of Tormé's Christmas will be jolly and bright.

"Christmas roasting on an open fire / Jack Frost nipping at your nose." Yes, Mel Tormé and Bob Wells wrote that in 1945, sending it to their good friend Nat (King)

# Gasp! A Picasso Fails To Sell at an Auction

Not every painting by Picasso is going to make a record, Christie's has discovered. Bidding on "Woman With Mandolin" halted on Tuesday at \$7 million, less than the undisclosed minimum price set by the seller, Hester Diamond. "The Bird Cage" sold last week at Sotheby's for \$15.4 million. Four days later, the artist's Blue Period painting, "Motherhood," sold for \$24.75 million at Christie's, becoming the most expensive 20th century artwork ever auctioned.

Film stars in France, including Alain Delon, Annie Girardot and Valerie Kaprisky, are to lend their talents to help U.S. veterans of the Vietnam War. They have agreed to dub "Dear America, Letters from Vietnam," by the American director Bill Coutaris, which was shown at this year's Cannes film festival. In the American version, the letters from soldiers are read by Robert de Niro, Tom Berenger and Kathleen Turner. Five percent of the profits from the film's showing in France will go to the families of those who died and to handicapped survivors.

The Sun newspaper in London has agreed to donate £100,000 (\$180,000) to four charities chosen by Queen Elizabeth II to settle a court case arising from its unauthorized publication of a snapshot of the queen, her mother and the queen's daughter, Princess Beatrice. Lawyers for the queen asserted that the newspaper had breached copyright laws for publishing the photograph taken by an unidentified friend of the royal family.

The 1988 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award was bestowed in absentia on Gibson Kanan Karis, the Kenyan lawyer who is barred from leaving his country. The ceremony took place in Washington.

Arnold Rosenfeld, who has been picked as the next editor-in-chief of the Cox newspaper group, will step in as editor of The Atlanta Constitution and The Atlanta Journal. Rosenfeld will help the publisher, a search for a permanent successor to Bill Kovach, who resigned Nov. 4. A rally in Kovach's support was held Saturday by a number of prominent Atlanta citizens.

# Italian Police Find Archaeological Trove

ROME — About 45,000 archaeological objects, stored in an illegal "museum," have been uncovered by Italian police at Tivoli.

The self-styled curator, Piero Cerullo, an engineer, told investigators he unearthed the objects for his "Aldobrandini's Cave." Giovanni Scapellato, of the Pignorum museum of prehistory in Rome, said some of the exhibits dated back to 5,000 years B.C. and included Roman and Etruscan artifacts. Under Italian law, Cerullo should have declared his finds to the state.

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